

A Photographic Journey through the
JAMES RIVER PARK SYSTEM
Photography by Bill Draper

Celebrate one of the most beloved park systems in the nation.



This special collection is a testament to photographer Bill Draper’s appreciation of Richmond’s most distinctive urban oasis, the James River Park System. These diverse views of the Park and the Richmond skyline were captured on and off the beaten path in all four seasons, from vantage points that are not always seen by the everyday Park visitor.

As these photos reveal, Bill’s appreciation for the Park’s beauty is a year-round passion. He can be found taking photos from sunup to sundown on both the hottest days of summer and the iciest days of winter. Bill says the secret to his success lies in covering between four and ten miles at a time, sometimes taking seventy-five to one hundred photos a day, hoping for a winning shot.

Along with nature lovers and Richmond devotees, we invite you to celebrate the unmatched beauty of one of the most beloved river park systems in the nation.

Royalties and the author’s net proceeds from sales of the book will be donated to the Friends of the James River Park, allowing them to continue to conserve, protect, and enhance Richmond’s 600-acre paradise.

About the Author



Bill Draper grew up in Stratford Hills near the Pony Pasture and spent his youth hopping rocks, fishing, swimming, and canoeing on the James River. Today, his athletic accomplishments continue to reflect his love for the outdoors and for living a healthy lifestyle. He is a veteran member of the Richmond Sports Backers Marathon Training Team, and is often found cycling on the Virginia Capital Trail or kayaking on the James with friends. He has completed several 500-mile bike rides, two 50-mile ultramarathons, and thirty-one Richmond Marathons, along with numerous others.

After retiring from a forty-year career in healthcare sales and marketing, Bill began carrying his camera on his outdoor adventures and sharing his photographs of the James River trails, birds, animals, and waterways on social media. His unique photo exploration of the James River Park System has been embraced by the Richmond community, including local media, who often feature his photographs.

<i>Genre: Photography</i>		Order direct from jamesriverpark.org	
<i>Printed Book Size: 11" x 8.5"</i>		<i>Printed Page Count: 96</i>	
<i>Format</i>	Hardcover	Paperback	Ebook
<i>ISBN</i>	978-1-953021-01-4	N/A	N/A
<i>Price</i>	\$38.95	N/A	N/A

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