

Four characteristics that make Dahlgren a unique national asset:

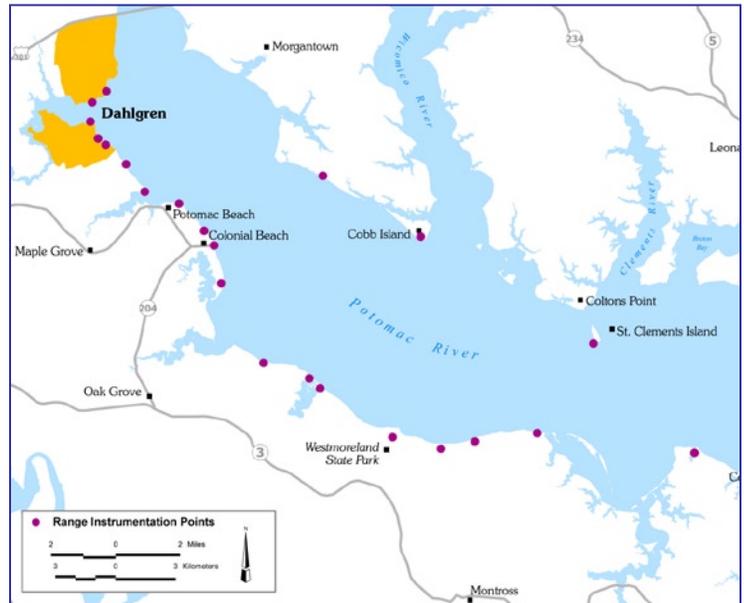
1. Coastal environment and varied climate
2. Fully instrumented over-the-water range
3. On-site expertise and equipment for complete development process
4. Proximity to other key military and government installations

Dahlgren has been at the core of US Naval strength for more than 90 years. Today, it also supports other branches of the military, the joint forces of our allies, and the Department of Homeland Security. From surface combat systems and advanced weapons to strategic strike capabilities and homeland protection, Dahlgren provides overwhelming technological advantage to our nation and our troops. The nation is very fortunate to have this unique research, development, testing and evaluation (RDT&E) facility. Four characteristics make Dahlgren invaluable to our nation:

Coastal Environment and Varied Climate

Because weapon systems and sensors function differently over water than over land, it is necessary to test them in a coastal environment that blends land, air, and water with varying weather conditions.

At Dahlgren, we can test and evaluate weapons and equipment in a riverine location that is similar to the coastal environments around the world where many of today's conflicts occur. Dahlgren is one of the few Navy locations that can provide a coastal environment for RTD&E supporting military preparedness.



Fully Instrumented Over-the-Water Range

Dahlgren has a multitude of test facilities that support its RDT&E activities. Among them are the Potomac River Test Range (PRTR) complex and the Explosives Experimental Area (EEA) range complex (see map on back page). Dahlgren's PRTR is the nation's largest fully-instrumented, over-the-water gun firing range. It allows the Navy to efficiently conduct testing in a realistic, controlled environment. Using the PRTR together with our other RDT&E

facilities, we can interact in real time with actual operating forces of the Navy or other branches of the military to test how well they operate together and how well weapon system components are working. This not only provides the Navy with a cost-effective method of developing new weapons and systems, but also speeds the development process.



Dahlgren and the Potomac River

For information on Dahlgren, please visit:

General Web site:
www.nswc.navy.mil

Range Web site:
www.nswc.navy.mil/RANGE/

