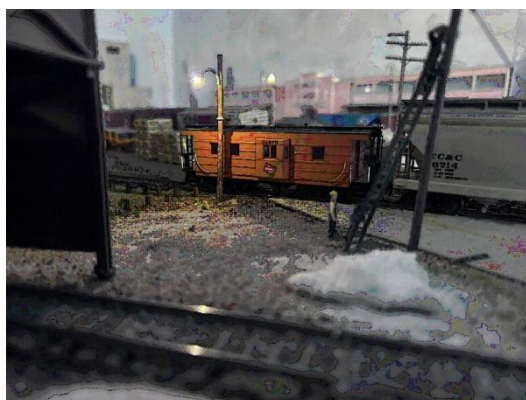


Southside – West - Chesapeake, VA
Layout #11

2026 MER Convention – Tracks to Tidewater
Layout Tour Book & Operating Sessions Guide

Jones Island, The Port of Milwaukee <i>Set in the 1970s-era</i>			<i>Open for Viewing (free)</i>		<i>Operating Sessions (\$10.00 charge)</i>	
Owner: Mark Nieting			<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Time(s)</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Time(s)</i>
HO	14' x 20'	>90% complete.	Friday	1p.m.– 4p.m.	Thursday	7p.m.– 10p.m.
Accessibility: There are 4 steps into the house, and another 9 to reach my “frog,” which also displays much of my Lionel pre and postwar collection and numerous railroad artifacts. Op sessions tend to run for about 2 hours.						
			9 Guests at a time around layout		6 Guests at a time around layout	



Description: Growing up in Milwaukee, I was fascinated by the port area, back then served by Milwaukee Road and the Chicago and Northwestern. Both the C&O and Grand Trunk operated railroad ferries to Cream City from Michigan. While many model the Beer Line, I know only a few doing Jones Island. I have tried to stay as close to the actual track plan and industries as I can, given the limitations of my space. Crews running the trains should be aware they are standing 25 feet of water!

My layout is a U-shaped switching layout. Transfers to Jones Island come from 4 staging tracks to serve the port area, including significant petroleum products, salt, cement and the port facilities themselves. Digitrax wireless throttles allow 3

crews to work around each other as well as avoiding CNW passenger service through the area. My era is winter 1969-1970, so prepared for a cool room and plenty of beer! All locos are sound equipped. Lucky visitors may catch the occasional transfer from Milwaukee, Racine and Troy to the C&O ferry.

Operating sessions require a crew of up to six. Operations are by car card, with a regular schedule of trains plus transfers.

