



Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Tuesday, April 1, 2014

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April 1 Kicks Off Maryland Archeology Month

20 Events in Nine Counties Explore State's Past

CROWNSVILLE, MD – With a wealth of natural resources and beautiful landscapes, it is no wonder that Maryland has a rich history of human settlement that resulted in significant archeological sites. From Colonial homes and historic Indian reservations on the Eastern Shore to pre-Columbian Native American village sites and frontier forts in western Maryland, archeologists, often assisted by the public, have learned much about the state's past.

To recognize Maryland's prolific archeological heritage, Governor Martin O'Malley declared April 2014 to be Maryland Archeology Month. Twenty events in nine counties are planned as part of the month-long celebration, themed "To Endure to World's End: Exploring Maryland Indian Landscapes." The theme focuses attention on the importance of Native Americans in Maryland and their continued presence and influence on the landscape today.

The events, designed to engage professional, amateur and would-be scientists in an exploration of Maryland's past, include:

- a day of archeological discovery at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, Calvert County
- a model excavation during the University of Maryland's Maryland Day, College Park
- a nature and archeological hike at Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm, Calvert County
- watching archeologists at work any Friday or Saturday during April at Pine Valley Park, Carroll County

A full calendar of events, searchable by date or location, is published by the [Archeological Society of Maryland](#).

Maryland archeologists gain an understanding of more than 12,000 years of human drama by excavating the past. Their findings come from decades of study in such places as St. Mary's City, Fort Frederick, Annapolis, Piscataway Park and the U.S.S. Scorpion. More recently, archeologists have focused on the early 17th-century Piscataway Indian fortification in southern Maryland known as Zekiah Fort.

Maryland Archeology Month is sponsored by the Maryland Historical Trust, the Maryland State Highway Administration, the Council for Maryland Archeology, the Prince George's County Parks Archeology Program and Historic St. Mary's City.

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall, AICP, Secretary
Amanda Stakem Conn, Esq., Deputy Secretary

As this year's lead sponsor, St. Mary's College of Maryland chose the Native American theme, and chose the wording carefully. Nearly every Colonial treaty with native peoples included the phrase "To endure to world's end," says Julie King, St. Mary's archeology professor, signifying the intent that the agreement was to last forever.

Today, native people live in all parts of Maryland, and fragments of their landscape and early culture endure as well. Travel MD Route 228 toward Waldorf in Charles County, connect with Route 5 into St. Mary's County, and you are traversing an early Piscataway Indian path.

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