



# Create Your Own State Park Picnic Area

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Many state parks have a designated picnic area with picnic tables and grills and sometimes a shelter or pavilion. These are the perfect spots to gather with your family and friends, making memories in the great outdoors!

## Did You Know?

- Over 14 million people visited Maryland's State Parks last year, and many came for picnicking.
- You can make your own "trash-free" picnic basket by using reusable plates, bowls and utensils for your picnic supplies!

## Activities

- Have a Picnic-** Do you have a place at your home for a picnic or outdoor meal? This could be a patio with a table and chairs or a nice grassy area where you can spread out a blanket. You can even have an indoor floor picnic, if the weather is bad! What are some of your favorite picnic foods? Show us a photo of your picnic.
- Play Lawn Games-** Set up croquet, archery, badminton or other lawn games in your park. Try your hand at horseshoes, bean bag toss or ladder ball. Or maybe try out an old-fashioned game of tag? Whatever recreational activity you choose, enjoy the open space and fresh air!
- Put up a Hammock-** Take some time to relax in your picnic area in a hammock. Be sure to carefully hang it to not damage the trees, or use a hammock stand instead. Look up at the sky and enjoy the view from your hammock. Listen to the sounds all around you.
- Minimize Lawn Area-** Although some lawn area is good for picnicking and games, it doesn't have to include your entire yard. Consider adding a "Grow, Don't Mow" zone in your park to minimize the amount of turf grass you have.

