



Create Your Own State Park Historic Sites

Maryland State Parks are full of stories about the people who lived in the past. They are also full of structures, landmarks and artifacts that help Maryland Park Service Rangers and Historical Interpreters tell those stories. Learn more about your Park's stories!

Did You Know?

- Maryland State Parks have the first completed monument dedicated to the memory of **President George Washington**, the **Washington Monument**.
- Maryland State Parks have historic lighthouses, buildings, battlefields, industrial sites, bridges and a fort you can visit.
- Maryland State Parks have artifacts (an object made by a human being, typically an item of cultural or historical interest) ranging for letters and documents to stone arrowheads and Civil War weapons.

Activities

- Create Your Historic Site or Artifact** - To explore Maryland State Parks with historical interests visit: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/activities.aspx?activity=HistoricalInterests>. You can recreate something found in one of Maryland's State Parks at your home or create a special historic site or artifact unique to your yard, community or family. Build a fort or historic building, erect a monument, research a person who lived in your historic site, design a battlefield or create an artifact. Have fun and be creative! Share a photo with us!
- Write the Story of your Historic Site or Artifact** - Document what happened at your historic site or with your artifact. Include everything you find interesting and think other people would be interested in knowing. Remember to put people into your story. Who was there, what did they do, why were they there, where did they come from, when were they there and how did they live are all important things to know. Don't worry too much about dates but focus on what happened and to whom it happened. For artifacts follow pretty much the same rule. Who used it, what is it made of, why did they use it, where was it found, used and made, when was it used and how was it used.
- Become a Historical Interpreter and share the story of your Historic Site or Artifact** - Historical interpreters navigate visitors through history by bridging the past to the present. Historical interpreters sometimes wear their Ranger Uniform when talking with visitors but sometimes they wear copies of clothing like that of the time period they are discussing. They can also do things the way they were done during a specific time in history. This is called Living History and is a great way to demonstrate how things were done. So put on your uniform or period clothing and tell or demonstrate the story of your historic site or artifact to your park visitors! Send us a photo or video!

