



# Create Your Own State Park Park Entrance

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Welcome to the Maryland Park Service's "Create Your Own State Park" Program. Are you ready to get started? Come on in! Your park entrance will mark where you enter your park and shows everyone that they have arrived at a special place.

## Did You Know?

- Maryland has **75** different State parks.
- Maryland has State Parks that include beaches, mountains, and waterfalls.
- Maryland's first State Park was **Patapsco Valley State Park**, which dates back to **1907**.
- Most Maryland residents live within **15 miles** of a State Park.

## Activities

### Name Your Park

Pick a name for your park. It can be related to your park's location, who lives there, the types of plants and animals found there or its history. Be creative and make sure the whole family agrees on the name. Look online at the names of parks in Maryland (or other states) to get some ideas.

### Make an Entrance Sign

Make an entrance sign for your park using the name you picked. You can paint the name on a split log or on a big piece of bark. You could also use sticks, twigs and other natural materials to make the shape of letters and glue them on to something. Be creative and use your imagination! Show us your park entrance sign!

### Park Rules

Most parks have rules to keep park visitors safe and healthy. Make a list of rules for your park. State parks in Maryland are "Trash-Free Parks." That means that you have to take your trash with you when you leave, so that there aren't trash cans to ruin a good view, smell bad or attract flies and bees. You may want to look up "Leave No Trace" (LNT) principles and add some of those to your park rules.

