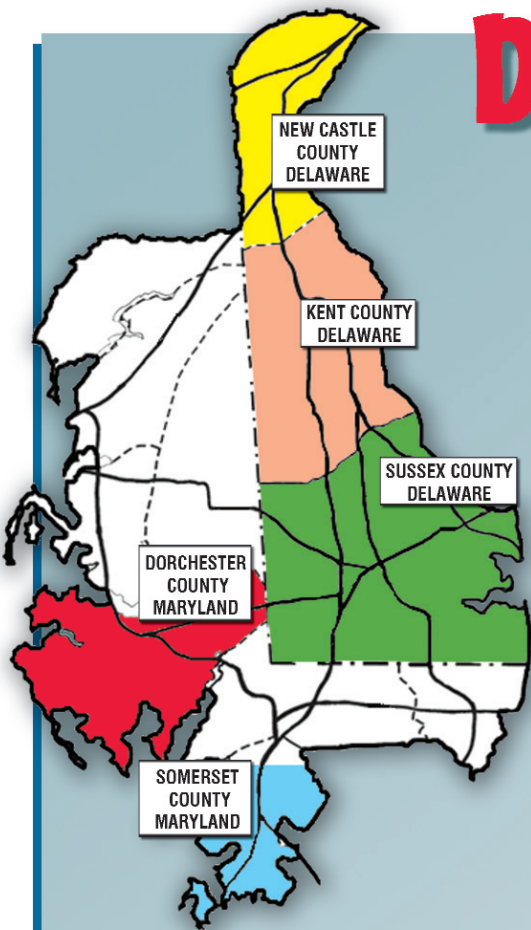


Did you know . . .

Somerset County, Maryland



CRAB CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

The Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab seems to be everywhere in the summertime. Whether served up steamed on a newspaper covered table or combined with other ingredients into your favorite crab dish, they're a delicious part of a Chesapeake Bay summer.

DEAL ISLAND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Expanses of tidal marsh, frequently broken by open water, characterize most of the habitat of this WMA. The 13,000 acre property contains forested wetlands and a 2,800-acre man-made pond. One of the best places in Maryland to watch, photograph & hunt ducks & geese.



State Flag:
The state flag of Maryland was officially adopted in 1904. It is the only US state flag based on British heraldry (the coats of arms of noble families). The flag's design was based on the coat of arms adopted by George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore. The alternating yellow and black are from Lord Calvert's family shield; the red and white design is either from Calvert's maternal family, the Crosslands, or his wife's family, the Mynnes.



State Motto:
"Fatti Maschii, Parole Femine"
Manly Deeds, Womanly Words

State Bird:
Baltimore Oriole

State Reptile:
Diamondback Terrapin

State Flower:
Black-eyed Susan

State Fish:
Striped Bass (aka Rockfish)

State Crustacean:
Maryland Blue Crab

State Tree:
White Oak

State Drink:
Milk

State Dog:
Chesapeake Bay Retriever



MARYLAND GAVE UP SOME OF IT'S LAND TO FORM WASHINGTON, D.C.

A FEW FAMOUS MARYLANDERS

- Francis Scott Key, author of the "Star-Spangled Banner"
- Harriet Tubman, African-American abolitionist
- John Wilkes Booth, assassin of President Lincoln
- Thurgood Marshall, first African-American Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court
- Billie Holiday, jazz singer
- Annie Oakley, Wild West sharpshooter
- Frederick Douglass, writer and speaker
- Tench Tilghman, aide-de-camp to Gen. George Washington during Revolutionary War
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, first native-born North American to be canonized by the Catholic Church
- John Hopkins, philanthropist and financier
- Enoch Pratt, founder of Maryland School for the Deaf and Dumb
- Spiro Agnew, 39th Vice-President of the U.S.
- Bess Armstrong, actress
- John Astin, actor
- Linda Hamilton, actress
- David Hasselhoff, actor
- Goldie Hawn, actress
- Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets
- Montel Williams, talk show host
- George Herman "Babe" Ruth, sports hero
- Cal Ripken, sports hero
- Sugar Ray Leonard, boxer
- Michael Phelps, gold medalist swimmer



THE SKIPJACK

The Skipjack, Maryland's state boat, is the last working boat under sail in America and is used to dredge for oysters in the Chesapeake Bay. Only about a dozen of these vessels remain on the Bay.

HARD CRAB DERBY

Every Labor Day weekend in Crisfield, locals get crabby and celebrate their favorite crustacean. Visitors flock to see the races where hundreds of crabs compete to see which is the fastest.



SMITH ISLAND

Maryland's only inhabited off-shore island in the Chesapeake Bay. Smith Islanders are traditional Chesapeake watermen. Working with tools that haven't changed much in a hundred years, they harvest crab in summer and a diminishing catch of oysters in winter. About 300 year-round residents are scattered among three tiny settlements.

TRIVIA

- The United States Naval Academy was founded on October 10, 1845 at Annapolis.
- The first dental school in the United States opened at the University of Maryland.
- Tilghman Island is home to the Skipjacks, the only commercial sailing fleet in North America.
- Fort Meade near Laurel became a base because a train engineer delivering soldiers to Meade knew only one Meade, the one in Maryland. He was not aware of Fort Meade, Florida. The confusion happened so often that a second base was built in Maryland.
- John Wesley Nelson, founder of Del Monte canned products, was born in Crisfield.
- Maryland was first to enact Workmen's Compensation Laws in 1902.

Crisfield-Somerset County Times

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