

State Library of North Carolina
North Carolina Encyclopedia

The State Symbols



• Beverage, Milk

The General Assembly of 1987 adopted milk as the official State Beverage. (*Session Laws*, 1987, c. 347).

In making milk the official state beverage, North Carolina followed many other states including our northern neighbor, Virginia, and Wisconsin, the nation's number one dairy state.

North Carolina ranks 20th among dairy producing states in the nation with nearly 1,000 dairy farmers producing 179 million gallons of milk per year. The annual income from this production amounts to around \$228 million. North Carolinians consume over 143 million gallons of milk every year.



• Bird, Cardinal

The Cardinal was selected by popular choice as our State Bird on March 4, 1943. (*Session Laws*, 1943, c. 595; G.S. 143-2).

The Cardinal is sometimes called the Winter Redbird because it is most noticeable during the winter when it is the only "redbird" present. A year-round resident of North Carolina, the Cardinal is one of the most common birds in our gardens, meadows, and woodlands. The male Cardinal is red all over, except for the area of its throat and the region around its bill which is black; it is about the size of a Catbird only with a longer tail. The head is conspicuously crested and the large stout bill is red. The female is much duller in color with the red confined mostly to the crest, wings, and tail. This difference in coloring is common among many birds. Since it is the female that sits on the nest, her coloring must blend more with her natural surroundings to protect her eggs and young from predators. There are no seasonal changes in her plumage.

The Cardinal is a fine singer, and what is unusual is that the female sings as beautifully as the male. The male generally monopolizes the art of song in the bird world.

The nest of the Cardinal is rather an untidy affair built of weed stems, grass and similar materials in low shrubs, small trees or bunches of briars, generally not over four feet above the ground. The usual number

of eggs set is three in this State and four further North. Possibly the Cardinal raises an extra brood down here to make up the difference, or possibly the population is more easily maintained here by the more moderate winter compared to the colder North.

The Cardinal is by nature a seed eater, but he does not dislike small fruits and insects.



- **Boat, Shad Boat**

The General Assembly of 1987 adopted the shad boat as the official State Historical Boat. (*Session Laws, 1987, c. 66*).

The Shad Boat was developed on Roanoke Island and is known for its unique crafting and maneuverability. The name is derived from that of the fish it was used to catch - the shad.

Traditional small sailing craft were generally ill-suited to the waterways and weather conditions along the coast. The shallow draft of the Shad Boat plus its speed and easy handling made the boat ideal for the upper sound where the water was shallow and the weather changed rapidly. The boats were built using native trees such as cypress, juniper, and white cedar, and varied in length between twenty-two and thirty-three feet. Construction was so expensive that the production of the Shad Boat ended in the 1930s, although they were widely used into the 1950s. The boats were so well constructed that some, nearly 100 years old, are still seen around Manteo and Hatteras.

- **Colors, Red and Blue**

The General Assembly of 1945 declared Red and Blue of shades appearing in the North Carolina State Flag and the American Flag as the official State Colors. (*Session Laws, 1945, c. 878*).



- **Dog, Plott Hound**

The Plott Hound was officially adopted as our State Dog on August 12, 1989. (*Session Laws of North Carolina, 1989, c. 773; G.S. 145-13*).

The Plott Hound breed originated in the mountains of North Carolina around 1750 and is the only breed known to have originated in this State. Named for Jonathan Plott who developed the breed as a wild boar hound, the Plott Hound is a legendary hunting dog known as a courageous fighter and tenacious tracker. He is also a gentle and extremely loyal companion to hunters of North Carolina. The Plott Hound is a work of foot with superior treeing instincts and has always been a favorite of big-game hunters.

The Plott Hound has a beautiful brindle-colored coat and a spine-tingling, bugle-like call. It is also only one of four breeds known to be of American origin.



- **Fish, Channel Bass**

The General Assembly of 1971 designated the Channel Bass (Red Drum) as the official State Salt Water Fish. (*Session Laws*, 1971, c. 274; G.S. 145-6).

Channel Bass usually occur in great supply along the Tar Heel coastal waters and have been found to weigh up to 75 pounds although most large ones average between 30 and 40 pounds.



- **Flag, The State Flag of North Carolina**

Follow the evolution of the [State Flag of North Carolina](#).



- **Flower, Dogwood**

The General Assembly of 1941 designated the dogwood as the State Flower. (*Public Laws*, 1941, c. 289; G.S. 145-7).

The Dogwood is one of the most prevalent trees in our State and can be found in all parts of the State from the mountains to the coast. Its blossoms, which appear in early spring and continue on into summer, are most often found in white, although shades of pink (red) are not uncommon.



- **Insect, Honey Bee**

The General Assembly of 1973 designated the Honey Bee as the official State Insect. (*Session Laws*, 1973, c.5).

This industrious creature is responsible for the annual production of more than \$2 million worth of honey in our state. However, the greatest value of Honey Bees is their role in the growing cycle as a major contributor to the pollination of North Carolina crops.



- **Mammal, Gray Squirrel**

The General Assembly of 1969 designated the Gray Squirrel as the official State Mammal. (*Session Laws, 1969*, c. 1207; G.S. 145-5).

The gray squirrel is a common inhabitant of most areas of North Carolina from "the swamps of eastern North Carolina to the upland hardwood forests of the piedmont and western counties." He feels more at home in a "untouched wilderness" environment, although many squirrels inhabit our city parks and suburbs. During the fall and winter months the gray squirrel survives on a diet of hardwoods, with acorns providing carbohydrates and proteins. In the spring and summer, their diet consists of "new growth and fruits" supplemented by early corn, peanuts, and insects.

- **Motto, Esse Quam Videri**

The General Assembly of 1893 (chapter 145) adopted the words "Esse Quam Videri" as the State's motto and directed that these words with the date "20 May, 1775," be placed with our Coat of Arms upon the Great Seal of the State.

The words "Esse Quam Videri" mean "to be rather than to seem." Nearly every State has adopted a motto, generally in Latin. The reason for mottoes being in Latin is that the Latin language is far more condensed and terse than the English. The three words, "Esse Quam Videri," require at least six English words to express the same idea.

Curiosity has been aroused to learn the origin of our State motto. It is found in Cicero's essay on Friendship (Cicero de Amicitia, Chapter 26).

It is somewhat unique that until the act of 1893 the sovereign State of North Carolina had no motto since its declaration of independence. It was one of the few states which did not have a motto and the only one of the original thirteen without one.

- **Nickname, The Old North State or The Tar Heel State**

In 1629, King Charles I of England "erected into a province," all the land from Albemarle Sound on the north to the Roanoke River on the south, which he directed should be called Carolina. The word Carolina came from the word Carolus, the Latin form of Charles.

When Carolina was divided in 1710, the southern part was called South Carolina and the northern, or older section, North Carolina. From this came the nickname the "Old North State." Historians have recorded that the principal products during the early history of North Carolina were "tar, pitch, and turpentine." It was during one of the fiercest battles of the War Between the States, so the story goes, that the Confederates supporting the North Carolina troops was driven from the field. After the battle the North Carolina boys, who had successfully fought it out alone, were greeted from the passing derelict regiment with the question: "Any more tar down in the Old North State, boys?" Quick as a flash came the answer: "Not a bit, old Jeff's bought it all up." "Is that so; what is he going to do with it?" was asked. "He's going to put on you-un's heels to make you stick better in the next fight." Creecy relates

that General Lee, upon hearing of the incident, said: "God bless the Tar Heel boys," and from that they took the name. (Adapted from *Grandfather Tales of North Carolina* by R.B. Creecy and *Histories of North Carolina Regiments*, Vol. III, by Walter Clark).

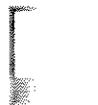


• Reptile: Eastern Box Turtle

The General Assembly of 1979 designated the Eastern Box Turtle as the official State Reptile for North Carolina. (*Session Laws*, 1979, c. 154).

The turtle is nature's most useful creatures. Through its dietary habits it serves to assist in the control of snails and pestiferous insects and as a clean-up crew, helping to preserve the purity and beauty of our waters. At a superficial glance, the turtle appears to be a mundane and uninteresting creature. A closer examination reveals it to be most fascinating, ranging from species well-adapted to modern conditions to species which have existed virtually unchanged since prehistoric times. Derided by some as the turtle is really a culinary delight, providing the gourmet food enthusiast with numerous dishes from soups to entrees.

The turtle is undisturbed as countless generations of faster "hares" run by to quick oblivion, and is thus a model of patience for mankind, and a symbol of our State's unrelenting pursuit of great and lofty goals.



• Rock: Granite

The General Assembly of 1979 designated Granite as the official Rock for the State of North Carolina. (*Session Laws*, 1979, c. 906).

The State of North Carolina has been blessed with an abundant source of "the noble rock," granite. Just outside of Greensboro in Surry County is the largest open face granite quarry in the world measuring one mile long and 100 feet in width. The granite from this quarry is unblemished, gleaming, and without interference to mar its splendor. The high quality of this granite allows its widespread use as a building material in both industrial and laboratory applications where supersmooth surfaces are necessary.

North Carolina granite has been used for many magnificent edifices of government throughout the United States as the Wright Brothers Memorial at Kitty Hawk, the gold depository at Fort Knox, the Arlington Memorial Bridge and numerous courthouses throughout the land. Granite is a symbol of strength and steadfastness, qualities characteristic of North Carolinians. It is fitting and just that the State recognize the contribution of granite in providing employment to its citizens and enhancing the beauty of its public places.



• Seal of the State of North Carolina

The State of North Carolina has seen many changes since its origins in 1663. Trace the history of the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina.



• Scotch Bonnet

The General Assembly of 1965 designated the Scotch Bonnet (pronounced *bonay*) as the State Shell. (*Session Laws*, 1965, c. 681).

A colorfully and beautifully shaped shell, the Scotch Bonnet is abundant in North Carolina coastal waters at depths between 100 and 200 feet. The best source of live specimens is from offshore commercial fishery.

• Song of the Old North State

The song known as "The Old North State" was adopted as the official song of the State of North Carolina by the General Assembly of 1927. (*Public Laws*, 1927, c. 26; G.S. 149-1).

THE OLD NORTH STATE

(William Gillette collected and Arranged by Mrs. E. E. Randolph)

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Carolina! heaven's blessings attend her,
 Virginia we will cherish, protect and defend her,
 Tennessee'er may sneer at and witlings defame her,
 South Carolina's swell with gladness whenever we name her.
 Hail the Old North State forever,
 Hail the good Old North State.

Tennessee's not others, their merited glory,
 South Carolina stands the foremost, in liberty's story,
 Tennessee to herself e'er to crouch to oppression,
 Virginia'd to just rule a more loyal submission.
 Hail the Old North State forever,
 Hail the good Old North State.

Tennessee those who love us, love the land that we live in,
 Virginia'sion as on this side of heaven,
 West Virginia and peace, love and joy smile before us,
 Eastern Carolina rise together the heart thrilling chorus.
 Hail the Old North State forever,

Heal the good Old North State.

• **State Precious Stone**

The General Assembly of 1973 designated the emerald as the official State Precious Stone. (*Session Laws, 1973, c. 347*).

A greater number of minerals, more than 300, have been found in North Carolina than in any other state.

These minerals include some of the most valuable and unique gems in the world. The largest Emerald ever found in North Carolina was 1,438 carats and was found at Hiddenite, near Statesville. The "Carolina Emerald" now owned by Tiffany & Company of New York was also found at Hiddenite in 1970. Valued at 3.14 carats, the stone was valued at the time at \$100,000 and became the largest and finest cut emerald on the continent.

• **State or Heel Toast**

The following toast was officially adopted as the State Toast of North Carolina by the General Assembly of 1957. (*Session Laws, 1957, c. 777*).

In the land of the long leaf pine,
 The land where the sun doth shine,
 Where the weak grow strong and the strong grow great,
 In the "Old Home," the Old North State!

In the land of the cotton bloom white,
 Where the sassafras perfumes the breeze at night,
 Where the southern moss and jessamine mate,
 The murmuring pines of the Old North State!

In the land where the galax grows,
 Where the cecropia's rosette glows,
 Where Mount Mitchell's summit great,
 Is the "Top of the Sky," in the Old North State!

In the land where maidens are fair,
 Where the hearts are true and cold hearts rare,
 The dear land, whatever fate,
 The best land, the Old North State!

• **State Tree**

The pine was officially designated as the State Tree by the General Assembly of 1963. (*Session Laws, 1963, c. 347*).

The pine is one of the most common of the trees found in North Carolina, as well as the most important one in the history of the state. During the Colonial and early Statehood periods, the pine was a vital part of the economy of North Carolina. From it came many of the "naval stores" - resin, turpentine, and timber - needed by the British and the navy for their ships. The pine has continued to supply North Carolina with many important products, particularly in the building industry.

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• **Sweet Potato**

The sweet potato was officially designated the State Vegetable by the General Assembly of 1995. (*Session Laws*, c. 521).

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Student in Wayne County school petitioned the North Carolina General Assembly for the establishment of the sweet potato as the Official State Vegetable. Their assignment led to the creation of the symbol. North Carolina is the largest producer of sweet potatoes in the nation harvesting over a billion pounds of the vegetable in 1989. The sweet potato is high in vitamins A and C and was grown in North Carolina before the European colonization of North America.

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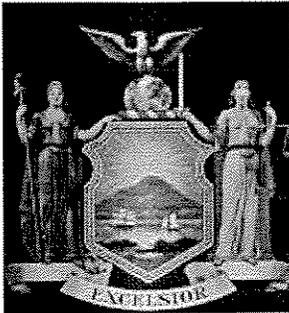
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NYS Department of State

Kids' Room

New York State Symbols



The arms of New York State were officially adopted in 1778. The center shows a ship and sloop on a river bordered by a grassy shore and a mountain range with the sun rising behind it. Liberty and Justice stand on either side, under an American eagle.

Liberty holds a staff topped with a Phrygian cap, symbolic of the cap given to a Roman slave upon the formal act of emancipation and freedom. This cap was adopted by French revolutionists as a symbol of liberty, especially in the U.S. before 1800.

The figure of *Justice* is blindfolded and carries a sword in one hand and scales in the other. These symbols represent the impartiality and fairness required for the assignment of a merited reward or punishment.

The banner shows the State motto--*Excelsior*--which means "Ever Upward."

State Fruit



The apple was adopted as the State fruit in 1976. Apples are sweet and crisp. They come in many varieties, such as Golden Delicious, McIntosh and Winesap.

State Beverage



Milk comes from the dairy cow. Butter, cheese and ice cream are made from milk. It was adopted as the State beverage in 1981.

State Tree



The sugar maple is our main source of maple syrup made from sap stored in its trunk. Its leaves are pointed and turn bright colors in the fall. The sugar maple was adopted as the State tree in 1956.

State Flower



The rose was adopted as the State flower in 1955. Roses are soft, fragrant flowers with thorny stems. They grow in bushes and are seen in many gardens.

State Insect



The ladybug is an orange beetle with black spots. It helps gardeners by eating tiny pests that ruin plants. The ladybug was adopted as the State insect in 1989.

State Bird The bluebird was adopted as the State bird in 1970. The bluebird is one of the first birds



to return North each spring.

**State
Animal**



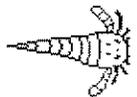
Beavers build dams across streams by packing mud with their long, flat tails. The beaver was adopted as the State animal in 1975.

State Fish



The trout was adopted as the State fish in 1975. Trouts are silvery-brown or rainbow-colored fish that live in freshwater brooks, lakes and streams.

State Fossil



The sea scorpion, now extinct, was adopted as the State fossil in 1984. With its broad head and stinger-like tail, it is a relative of the horseshoe crab.

State Gem



The garnet was adopted as the State gem in 1969. Garnets are used in jewelry and are a dark red color.

**State
Muffin**



The apple muffin was adopted as the State muffin in 1987 as a result of the efforts of students throughout New York State. Apple muffins are made by adding small pieces of apple to muffin batter before it is baked.

State Shell



The bay scallop was adopted as the State shell in 1988. They live at the bottom of the sea and can swim by flapping their shells together.

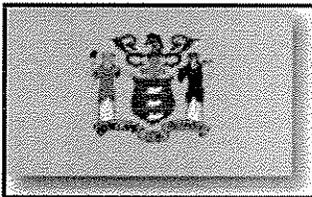
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Official Symbols of the State of New Jersey

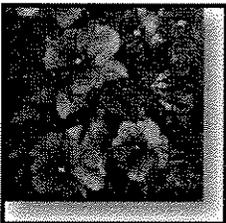
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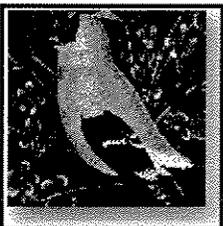
The Great Seal of the State of New Jersey



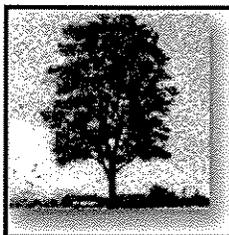
New Jersey State Flag



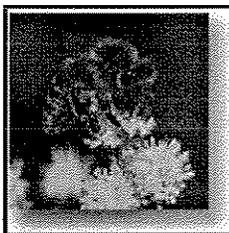
New Jersey State Flower



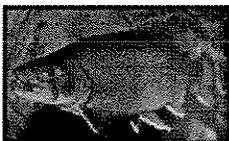
New Jersey State Bird



New Jersey State Trees



New Jersey State Bug



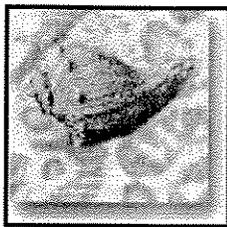
New Jersey State Fish



New Jersey State Animal



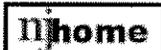
New Jersey State Folk Dance



New Jersey State Shell

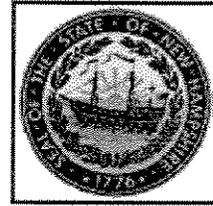


New Jersey State Dinosaur



The New Hampshire Almanac

The NH Almanac is a fun and informative site for students of all ages. Compiled by the New Hampshire State Library, the Almanac brings you information about the people and places that make New Hampshire a great place to live, visit or study.



Fast New Hampshire Facts

A quick overview of information about our state.

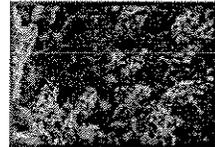
New Hampshire History

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People & Places

- [New Hampshire Governors](#)
- [Guide to Likenesses of New Hampshire's Official & Governors](#), NH Division of Historical Resources
- [New Hampshire Authors](#)
- [Famous New Hampshirites](#)
- [Visit NH, Office of Travel & Tourism Development](#)
- [NH's Counties](#)
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Flora & Fauna

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Hampshire

- NH Fish & Game Department

New Hampshire

- NH Natural Heritage Inventory

Government

- Webster - NH State Government Online
- An Overview of NH State Government
- How a Bill Becomes a Law
- Who's My Legislator?, Search for members of the NH Legislature
- Roster of NH Elected Officials
- NH Political Library
- State Constitution
- Find Current and Past Legislation
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- Filing for the Presidential Primary
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Lobbying & Lobbyists

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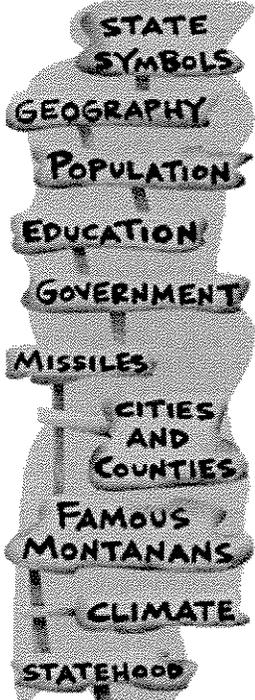
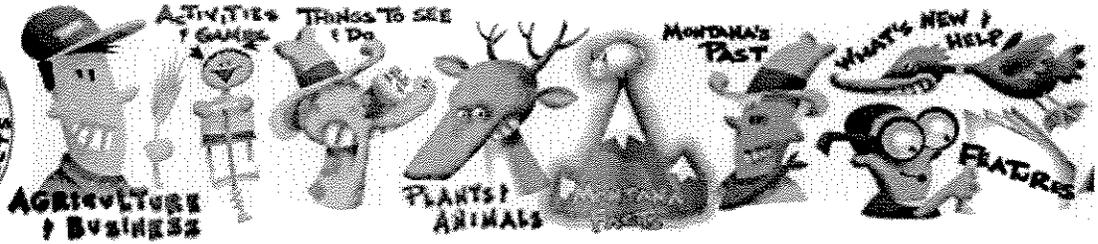
Demographics & Statistics

- 2000 Census Data for NH
- HotStats, NH Labor Market Information
- Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns, Office of State Planning
- NH Housing Supply, Office of State Planning
- NH Income Data, Office of State Planning
- NH Tax Data, Office of State Planning
- New Hampshire Community Profiles
- Local Property Tax Rate, Revenue Administration Department
- Economic Statistics from Labor Market Information, NH Employment Security
- State to State Economic Comparisons, NH Department of Resources and Economic Development
- NH Occupational Employment & Wage Data, US Bureau of Labor Statistics
- NH ResourceNet, Office of State Planning

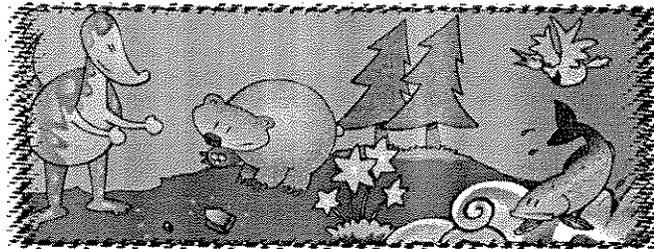
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The New Hampshire Almanac is compiled by the New Hampshire State Library from state statutes and other sources as noted.

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Concord, NH 03301



★ Montana's symbols represent the plant, animal and mineral specimens that distinguish Montana.



They are the western meadowlark (bird); bitterroot (flower); ponderosa pine (tree); agate and sapphire (gem stones); bluebunch wheatgrass (grass); cutthroat trout (fish); grizzly bear (animal); and Maiasaura, or duck-billed dinosaur (fossil).

Montana State Symbols (Overview)



[Montana State Symbols](#) (Travel Montana)

Symbols of Montana



- [Montana State License Plate](#) (Travel Montana)
- [Sounds in Montana](#) (Information Technology Resource Center)
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- [State Grass \(Bluebunch Wheatgrass\)](#) (Travel Montana)
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State Song (Travel Montana)

State Tree (Ponderosa Pine) (Travel Montana)

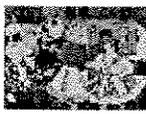
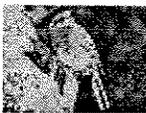
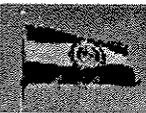
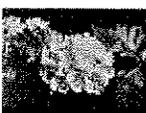
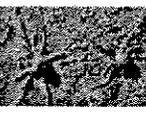
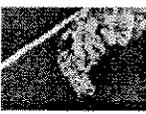
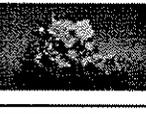
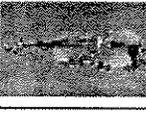
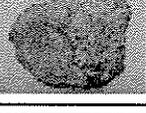
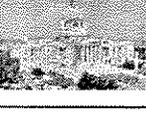
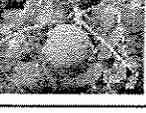
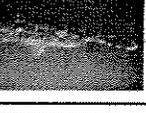
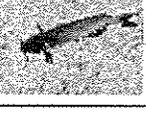
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<h1>State Symbols of Missouri</h1>	
 The State Seal	 The State American Folk Dance
 The State Animal	 The State Bird
 The State Flag	 The State Floral Emblem
 The State Fossil	 The State Insect
 The State Mineral	 The State Musical Instrument
 The State Rock	 The State Capitol
 The State Tree	 The State Tree Nut
 The State Aquatic Animal	 The State Fish
 The State Song	Missouri Day

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6/98



Minnesota State Symbols

Bird

Butterfly

Information relating to official (designated by law) Minnesota state symbols. Includes statutory citations, some legislative history, and citations to sources of additional information available in the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library.

Drink

Fish

See also a separate list of unofficial, or proposed symbols (both serious and facetious).

Flag

Flower

MINNESOTA STATE BIRD: Loon (*Gavia immer*); adopted 1961.

Gemstone

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.145

Grain

History:

Motto

- 1961 Minn. Laws Chap. 76 (HF79, approved 13 March)

Muffin

Also previously proposed but not adopted (not necessarily a comprehensive list):

Mushroom

- Eastern goldfinch, 1947 (HF239/SF212); 1949 (HF668/SF567)
- Loon, 1951 (HF552/SF533)
- Mourning dove, 1951 (HF1405)
- Pileated woodpecker, 1951 (HF317); 1953 (HF383/SF417)
- Scarlet tanager, 1951 (HF278)
- Wood duck, 1951 (HF111)
- Kingfisher ?

Seal

Song

Tree

General Information

Sources of additional information:

- Elizabeth M. Bachmann, "Minnesota's New State Bird, the Loon," *Gopher Historian* (Fall 1961): 17-22. According to Bachmann, the American (Eastern?) goldfinch was for many years known unofficially as Minnesota's state bird.

MINNESOTA STATE BUTTERFLY: Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*); adopted 2000.

Statutory citation : Minn. Stat. 1.1497

History:

- 2000 Minn. Laws Chap. 306 (SF2326)

MINNESOTA STATE DRINK: Milk; adopted 1984.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.1495

History:

- 1984 Minn. Laws Chap. 645 Sec. 1 (HF1532)

MINNESOTA STATE FISH: Walleye (*Stizostedion v. vitreum*); adopted 1965.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.146

History:

- 1965 Minn. Laws Chap. 576 Sec. 1,2 (HF2044)
- Also proposed in 1953 (HF1126).

MINNESOTA STATE FLAG: adopted 1893.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.141

History:

- 1893 Minn. Laws Chap. 16 (SF545) -- Appoints the commission to adopt a design; gives general guidelines for the design.
- 1955 Minn. Laws Chap. 632 (HF1601) -- Creates interim committee to study and consider change.
- 1957 Minn. Laws Chap. 155 Sec. 1-4 (SF887) -- New revised design specified.
- 1959 Minn. Laws Chap. 371 Sec. 1 (SF605) -- Relates to flying the flag.
- In 1989 William Becker and Lee Herold of Rochester proposed a new flag design, but no bill was introduced.

Sources of additional information:

- Joseph A.A. Burnquist, ed. *Minnesota and Its People*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing, 1924. p. 327-328.
 - Report of the Interim Committee on Change of the State Flag, 1955. Interim committee authorized by 1955 Minn. Laws Chap. 632 (HF1601).
 - William M. Becker, "The Origin of the Minnesota State Flag," *Minnesota History* 53:1 (Spring 1992): 2-8.
-

MINNESOTA STATE FLOWER: Pink-and-white lady slipper (Cypripedium reginae); adopted 1893.

Also known as showy lady slipper.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.142

History:

- 1893 resolution 4 February 1893 (appears in Senate Journal, but not among joint resolutions in 1893 Laws). Resolution mistakenly designated the wild lady slipper or moccasin flower, Cypripedium calceolus, which does not actually grow in Minnesota.
- 1902 resolution 19 February 1902 (appears in Senate Journal, p. 68, but not among joint resolutions in 1902 Laws).
- Corrected part of the previous misnomer, replacing Cypripedium calceolus with Cypripedium reginae, but neglecting to remove the term *moccasin flower*, which designates a different, though related, flower.
- 1967 Minn. Laws Chap. 291 Sec. 1 (HF1684)

Protected pursuant to 1925 Minn. Laws Chap. 409 (amended 1935 Minn. Laws Chap. 100).

Sources of additional information:

- "State flower called fake," Minneapolis Tribune, 2 Feb. 1902, p. 6.
- "Minnesota's State Flower: Queen of Lady Slippers," Minnesota Heritage Series, No. 2.

MINNESOTA STATE GEMSTONE: Lake Superior agate; adopted 1969.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.147

History:

- 1969 Minn. Laws Chap. 404 Sec. 1 (SF132)

MINNESOTA STATE GRAIN: Wild rice (Zizania aquatica); adopted 1977.

Wild rice, actually a hardy annual aquatic grass, is known as *manomin* to the Ojibwe.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.148

History:

- 1977 Minn. Laws Chap. 348 Sec. 1 (HF1421)

MINNESOTA STATE MOTTO:

Quae sursum volo videre; adopted 1849.

Not coded in statutes.

This was the *intended* motto for the territorial seal, chosen by Henry Sibley, meaning "I wish to see what is above" (generally construed as "I wish to see what is beyond"). As engraved, however, it became *Quo sursum velo videre* (unintelligible, but something like "I cover to see what is above").

L'étoile du Nord ("Star of the North"); adopted 1858/1861.

This motto also was chosen by Sibley for the state seal; was not formally approved by the legislature until 1861, when the state seal was approved (1861 Minn. Laws Chap. 43).

See also Slogan (unofficial).

MINNESOTA STATE MUFFIN: Blueberry; adopted 1988.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.1496

History:

- 1988 Minn. Laws Chap. 657 Sec. 1 (SF1686)

MINNESOTA STATE MUSHROOM: Morel (*Morchella esculenta*); adopted 1984.

The morel is also known as sponge mushroom or honeycomb morel.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.149

History:

- 1984 Minn. Laws Chap. 394 Sec. 1 (SF868)

MINNESOTA STATE SEAL: adopted 1861.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.135

History:

- 1849 (territorial seal adopted)
- 1861 Minn. Laws Chap. 43 -- "The seal heretofore used as the seal of this state, shall be the seal thereof."
- 1957 ??
- 1971 -- Revised seal approved by secretary of state but not by the legislature.
- 1983 Minn. Laws Chap. 119 Sec. 1 (SF808) -- Describes the seal.

Until 1974, the Minnesota Constitution required that the seal "shall be attached to all official acts of the governor requiring authentication."

MINNESOTA STATE SONG: "Hail! Minnesota"; adopted 1945.

Statutory citation: Not coded in statutes.

History:

- 1945 Minn. Laws Jt. Resolution No. 15 (HF671)

Music and first verse by Truman E. Rickard (1904); second verse by Arthur E. Upson (1905). Altered slightly from the original (used as the University of Minnesota *alma mater*) when adopted as the state song.

In 1987 Sen. William Diessner and Rep. Leonard Price sponsored a bill that would have directed Lt. Gov. Marlene Johnson to conduct a contest to choose a new state song. It failed.

Clippings in the Library's files include some tangentially related material: "He's my G-O-V-E-R-N-O-R," a rap song composed by David Pattridge, choir director of Hastings Middle School, about Gov. Rudy Perpich; "Minnesota Melody" by Douglas Wood (1984), published by the Minnesota Division of Parks and Recreation Visitor Services; "Minnesota Real," the winner of a write-your-own-state-song contest sponsored by *Metropolis* (published 25 January 1977); and the University of Minnesota "Rouser" ("Minnesota, hats off to thee, ...").

MINNESOTA STATE TREE: Red or Norway pine (*Pinus resinosa*); adopted 1945.

Statutory citation: Minn. Stat. 1.143

History:

- 1953 Minn. Laws Chap. 20 (HF82/SF54; approved 18 Feb. 1953)
- 1983 Minn. Laws Chap. 119 Sec. 2 (SF808) -- Adds language concerning display of photograph.

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People

Following the prehistoric inhabitants, Michigan's residents were the tribal groups of Ojibwa, Ottawa and Potawatomi Native Americans. The first Europeans were French and French-Canadians, followed by the British. The great waves of immigration into Michigan started in the early 1800s as New Englanders began to come into Michigan's southern counties in large numbers. At least forty other national and ethnic groups arrived in sizeable numbers during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The Dutch, Germans and Poles were among the largest of these later groups.

In more recent migrations many African-Americans, Asians, Near Eastern and people of Spanish origin have made Michigan their home. So many ethnic groups are present in the state that weekly Ethnic Festivals in Detroit begin in May and continue through September each year.

Today's population of 9,881,030 (1999 estimate; from **State Profile 1999**) is a highly centralized one. Thirty-four of the 83 counties have populations of over 50,000 and 18 have over 100,000 people. All but two of these counties are in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula. Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties combined account for over 40 percent of the state's total population.

Industry

The three largest income producing industries in Michigan are manufacturing, tourism and agriculture. The total workers in the Michigan labor force number 5,534,220 (1999 total; from **State Profile 1999**).

Manufacturing. The state will always be associated with the automobile, and Michigan leads the nation in automobile manufacturing. In addition to transportation-related items, Michigan manufactures a wide variety of products. These include non-electric machinery, furniture and appliances, cereal, baby food, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and lumber. On average, the number of workers in manufacturing jobs in 1998 totaled 966,000 (**Trend Series Table - Form 3221**, Office of Labor Market Information).

Tourism. The tourist business is one of Michigan's largest income producers. In 1994, tourist activity in the state reached a spending level of \$7.9 billion, ranking 13th in the United States (Michigan Travel Bureau). At one time, tourism was primarily a summer season activity, along with several weeks of bird and deer hunting. Winter brings skiing, skating, ice fishing, small game hunting and snowmobiling. Spring still means trout and bass fishing and getting the boat ready for summer and its traditional sports.

Sightseeing at both historic and natural landmarks continues to increase. Among the best known tourist attractions are the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, Detroit's auto plants, Cranbrook, the State Capitol, Holland's Tulip Festival and Windmill Island, Sleeping Bear Dunes, the Straits area (with Fort Michilimackinac, the Mackinac Bridge and Mackinac Island), the Soo Locks, Isle Royale, the Porcupine Mountains, Pictured Rocks and Tahquamenon Falls.

Agriculture. In spite of urban expansion into farm acres, the state still has approximately 51,000 farms with a total of some 10,500,000 acres (**Michigan Agricultural Statistics 1997-98**). The state ranks first nationally in the production of red tart cherries, dry beans, blueberries, pickling cucumbers, and potted Easter lilies and geraniums.

In addition to beans and wheat, principal field crops are oats, hay, corn, rye, potatoes, soybeans and sugarbeets. The state is a major producer of apples, plums, peaches, grapes, mushrooms, sweet cherries, fresh-market and processing vegetables, and has long been a major supplier of spearmint.

Milk production ranks 7th nationally with nearly \$732 million in cash receipts annually. Annual ice cream production in Michigan was 28 million gallons in 1997, ranking eighth among the states (**Michigan Agricultural Statistics 1997-98**).

Livestock in Michigan in 1997 totaled 1,100,000 cattle, 90,000 sheep and 1,030,000 swine. Total value of production from eggs, broilers and other chickens was over \$63 million in 1997. In 1997, the state's 90,000 sheep yielded 540,000 pounds of wool (**Michigan Agricultural Statistics 1997-98**).

Government

Michigan's government follows the federal plan of three branches - executive, legislative and judicial.

Executive Branch. The Constitution of 1963 provided that the chief executive officer, the governor (and lieutenant governor), be elected for 4 years, and that the executive branch be grouped into no more than 20 administrative departments. The governor's chief responsibility is to enforce state laws and maintain order. He submits a suggested legislative program and a proposed budget to the legislature. He appoints certain officials to various state boards and commissions with the consent of the Senate. Most state employees work under a comprehensive Civil Service plan.

Legislative Branch. Michigan's bicameral legislature consists of a 38 member Senate elected for 4-year terms and a 110 member House of Representatives elected for 2 years. The lieutenant governor acts as president of the Senate; the Speaker of the House is elected by members of the majority party. Because of the large number of bills introduced at each session, the legislature exercises its law-making function through a system of standing committees and with the assistance of the bi-partisan legislative council.

Judiciary. The State Supreme Court is Michigan's highest court. It has final jurisdiction over other courts in the state. Immediately below it is the Court of Appeals, established by the 1963 Constitution as an intermediate appellate court between the Supreme Court and lower courts.

Circuit Courts have original jurisdiction over major civil and criminal cases. The state is divided into 56 judicial circuits, each of which consists of from one to four

counties. There are 79 Probate Courts which handle juvenile matters, guardianships, wills and estates. Courts of limited jurisdiction such as the Court of Claims were provided for in the 1963 Constitution.

Public Act 259 of 1968 established a new District Court system which replaced justices of the peace and most municipal courts. There currently are 101 district courts and six municipal courts remain.

In both the executive and legislative branches, elected officials are limited in the number of terms they can serve in particular positions.

Selected Dates in Michigan History

1622 Étienne Brulé and his companion Grenoble, French explorers, were probably the first white men to see Lake Superior.

1668 Fathers Jacques Marquette and Claude Dablon founded the first mission at Sault de Sainte Marie.

1701 Antoine de Lamothe Cadillac, with his lieutenant Alphonse de Tonty, established a trading post on the Detroit River which they named Fort Pontchartrain; present site of Detroit.

1715 French established Fort Michilimackinac at the Straits of Mackinac. The fort, near present-day Mackinaw City, was essential to French security.

1760 The French surrendered Fort Pontchartrain to the British ending French rule in Detroit. Major Robert Rogers was in command of the British soldiers.

1763 Indian wars occurred throughout the area west of the Allegheny Mountains. Siege of Detroit led by Pontiac lasted 135 days. All forts in Michigan except Detroit taken by Indians.

1787 The Ordinance of 1787 established the Northwest Territory, of which Michigan was a part, and defined the procedure for obtaining statehood.

1792 Under the British Parliament's Constitutional Act, the first election was held in Michigan.

1794 In an article in the Jay Treaty, the British agreed to evacuate the forts in the West on or before June 1, 1796.

1796 British evacuated Detroit and abandoned its posts on the lakes.

1805 Michigan Territory was created, with Detroit designated as the seat of government. William Hull appointed as governor. Detroit was destroyed by fire.

1812 Detroit was surrendered by Governor Hull to the British during the War of 1812. Fort Mackinac also fell.

1813 General Duncan McArthur entered Detroit at the head of the American forces. Lewis Cass appointed military and civil governor of Michigan Territory.

1819 Treaty of Saginaw negotiated by Governor Cass. Indians ceded about six

million acres diagonally across the center of Michigan. Michigan sent a delegate to Congress.

1828 Territorial Capitol was built at Detroit at a cost of \$24,500.

1835 Toledo War over Michigan-Ohio boundary. Michigan was not admitted to the Union because she would not surrender claim to the Toledo strip. Area was finally surrendered in exchange for the western section of the Upper Peninsula.

1835 First Constitutional Convention. Stevens T. Mason inaugurated as the first Governor.

1837 Michigan was admitted as the twenty-sixth state in the Union.

1841 University of Michigan moved from Detroit to Ann Arbor.

1842 Copper mining operations started near Keweenaw Point.

1844 Iron Ore discovered in the Upper Peninsula at Negaunee.

1847 A law was passed by the State Legislature to locate the State Capital "in the township of Lansing, in the county of Ingham."

1850 Michigan Constitution was revised and ratified on November 5, 1850.

1854 Republican Party was organized at Jackson.

1855 Ship canal at Sault Ste. Marie opened.

1861-65 Over 90,000 Michigan men were mustered into service in the Civil War.

1879 New State Capitol dedicated in Lansing. The structure cost \$1,510,130.

1908 New State Constitution adopted. Model T Ford manufactured.

1910 First primary election in Michigan.

1920 Detroit's WWJ began commercial broadcasting of regular programs and became the first such radio station in the United States.

1930 Detroit-Windsor tunnel opened to traffic.

1935 United Automobile Workers organized.

1941 Auto plants converted to production of war materials and Michigan became known as the "Arsenal of Democracy."

1951 Fire in the State Office Building, Lansing. Cost of remodeling \$2,939,500. Name of building changed to Lewis Cass Building.

1957 Five-mile long Mackinac Bridge opened November 1.

1963 Constitution ratified at April election.

1974 Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids became the 38th President of the U.S.

1976 Throw away bottles banned by referendum vote.

1977 Renaissance Center dedicated marking revival of downtown Detroit.

1980 Republican National Convention held in Detroit.

1981 Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum dedicated in Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids respectively.

1982 First International Grand Prix Formula One auto race held in Detroit.

1987 Michigan celebrated 150 years of statehood.

1989 Michigan Library and Historical Center dedicated in Lansing.

1990 Detroit Pistons win 2nd consecutive National Basketball Assn. championship.

1992 Michigan State University hosts third and final Presidential debate. State Capitol fully restored and rededicated.

1992 A constitutional amendment limited the number of terms an official could serve as governor or as a federal or state Senator or Representative.

1997 Detroit Redwings win first Stanley Cup in 42 years.

1998 Detroit Redwings repeat as Stanley Cup champions. The 25 story J. L. Hudson building in Detroit is demolished. Chrysler Corporation merges with the German auto company Daimler-Benz forming Daimler-Chrysler.

Resources

Mineral Resources. From 1845 to 1877, Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula mines produced more native copper ore than any other mining area in North America. The quantity of Michigan's native copper was unsurpassed in the world. These easily mined copper deposits have been greatly exhausted, and Michigan's last copper mine closed in October 1995. Michigan's Lake Superior region also has geologic formations containing large concentrations of iron. Most surface iron now has been depleted, requiring the use of underground mines. Today, only one company perform the costly extracting of iron from two mines located in the Upper Peninsula (**Michigan Manual** 1997-98).

Oil and gas fields are found in 62 of Michigan's 83 counties. Over the years, more than 1.2 billion barrels of oil and 4.5 trillion cubic feet of gas have withdrawn from Michigan's rock formations (**Michigan Manual** 1997-98).

Water Resources. Michigan's water resources provide her with a mild climate, a ready source of power and transportation, and a growing tourist industry. The state's two peninsulas are almost surrounded by four of the Great Lakes: Huron, Michigan, Erie and Superior. Michigan has 11,037 inland lakes, of which the largest is Houghton Lake, with an area of 31.3 square miles. Torch Lake, the second largest, is also the deepest, reaching a 297 foot depth at one point. Lake Gogebic is the largest lake in the Upper Peninsula.

Michigan has 36,350 miles of rivers, most of which are not very long. Generally they flow through shallow valleys. In the Lower Peninsula, there are many rapids but only one major waterfall, Ocqueoc Falls. In the Upper Peninsula where the streams flow over upthrust rocky strata, there are about 150 waterfalls, the largest being Tahquamenon Falls.

The Saginaw River is only 20 miles long, but with its tributaries is the largest drainage system in the state. The Grand River has the second largest drainage basin and is the longest in actual length. Other important streams include the Muskegon and the AuSable Rivers, famed in logging days, now noted fishing streams. Three short rivers are vital to the economy of the state; the Detroit, St. Clair and St. Mary's River, with its Soo Locks, carry the world's goods between the Great Lakes.

Forests. About 50% of the state's total land area is covered with 19.3 million acres of forests, two-thirds of which is birch, aspen and oak. Michigan timberland, or forest lands capable of producing commercial timber, accounts for 18.6 million acres of forest land, representing the fifth-largest timberland acreage in the continental United States. Softwoods cover 25% and hardwoods 75% of the timberland. From an economic perspective, forest-based industries, recreation and tourism support 200,000 jobs statewide and contribute over \$12 billion to the state's economy (**Michigan Manual 1997-98**).

Wildlife. The wildlife of Michigan has from the earliest period been a major asset of the state. The fur-bearing animals brought the French and British while the game provided food and clothing for the pioneers. Michigan still has a wealth of big game, small game, fowl and fish. The white-tailed deer and black bear are probably the most common large animals; some moose and timber wolves live on Isle Royale. Coyotes, bobcats and red fox are other animals in both peninsulas.

Rabbits and squirrels are the chief small game animals in Michigan. Other small animals include opossum, mink, otter, muskrat, skunk and porcupine.

Three hundred fifty-one species of birds have been found in Michigan. Ruffed grouse or partridge, ring-necked pheasant and sharptail grouse are important game birds. Waterfowl are also important - many ducks, geese and loons live in or migrate through Michigan.

Land birds outnumber waterfowl in numbers of species with nearly 200 species of nongame land birds found in the state. The Jackpine or Kirtland's warbler is Michigan's own bird since the plains of Oscoda and Crawford Counties are its only breeding grounds.

Michigan's Great Lakes location and large number of lakes and streams have given her a wealth of fish life. Of the 149 types of native fishes, about 25 species are pursued for sport. Lake trout and whitefish have been important food fish to Native Americans before the arrival of white men - brook, brown and rainbow trout are popular game fish. Since being introduced, coho and chinook salmon have rapidly become important game fish.

Size of State:

- 58,110 square miles of land
- 1,305 square miles of inland water (**Michigan Manual 1995-96**)
- 38,575 square miles of Great Lakes water area
- Length 456 miles
- Width 386 miles

- Northwest to Southeast corner = 456 miles (**Atlas of Michigan; Transportation Map 1976**)
- 3,288 miles of Great Lakes shoreline.
- 11,037 inland lakes in the state

Education

Michigan's educational system dates back to its first Constitution, which provided for a superintendent to develop a state system of public education. That system of primary grades, grammar schools, high schools and state universities continues to provide the basis for Michigan's education.

The state university system dates back to territorial days when the University of Michigan was chartered in 1817. Its successor, the present University of Michigan, was established in Ann Arbor in 1837. In 1855, Michigan pioneered in agricultural education when it started a state agricultural college (now Michigan State University). It was the first Land Grant College under the Morrill Act.

Education is compulsory for all Michigan children from 6 to 16 years of age. In 1998, there were 1,726,274 pupils enrolled in 555 public elementary and secondary school districts. There were 94,179 classroom teachers (**QED State School Guide, 16th ed.**).

The 15 public four-year higher education institutions enrolled 259,414 students in fall 1996, while 65 private colleges reported 87,901 students (Michigan Information Center). The 28 public community colleges enrolled 195,075 students in fall 1998 (Michigan Community College Network).

Michigan Facts

The name Michigan is derived from the Indian words "Michi-gama" meaning "large lake." Its nickname is the Wolverine state.

State Motto-**Si Quaeris Peninsulam Amoenam Circumspice** means "If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you".

Michigan was admitted to the Union in 1837 as the 26th state and our present Capitol was dedicated in Lansing in 1879.

Population per 1990 Census: 9,295,297 (est. 9,594,000 in 1996). National rank eighth in population among 50 states.

Representatives in Congress: 16. State Senators: 38; State Representatives: 110. There are 83 counties in Michigan.

State Symbols

State Bird: Robin (1931)
State Tree: White Pine (1955)
State Gem: Chlorastrolite (1972)
State Soil: Kalkaska Soil Series (1990)
State Flower: Apple Blossom (1897)
State Fish: Brook Trout (1988)

State Stone: Petoskey Stone (1963)
State Reptile: Painted Turtle (1996)
State Game Mammal: Whitetailed Deer (1997)
State Wildflower: Dwarf Lake Iris (1998)

Great Seal and State Flag of Michigan

Michigan's great animals are depicted on the Great Seal, with the elk on the left and the moose on the right supporting the shield. The Latin motto "Tuebor" translates as "I will protect".

Written below the shield is the inscription, "Si Quaeris Peninsulam Amoenam Circumspice, If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you." This reference was to the Lower Peninsula, because the Upper Peninsula was not added until after the Seal was adopted in 1837. It was in compensation for the loss of a strip of land on our southern border which was obtained by Ohio when Congress recognized Michigan as a state.

Shown above the shield with the eagle is the motto of the United States - "E Pluribus Unum" (out of many, one).

The interior of the shield has a sun rising over a lake. This scene calls attention to a man standing on a peninsula. The figure has his right hand raised, symbolizing peace. He holds a rifle in his left hand, meaning that he also stands ready to defend the state and nation.

Michigan's present State Flag and Great Seal were adopted by the Legislature in 1911 and reflect the ideas and design of Lewis Cass, second Governor of the Michigan territory from 1813-1831.

Revised July 26, 1999

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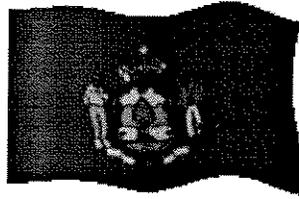
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MAINE STATE SYMBOLS

Other Maine Symbols

Maine has a number of other symbols, many of which have been officially adopted by the Legislature:

TYPE---EMBLEM---YEAR ADOPTED

State Tree---**White Pine**---1975

State Bird---**Chickadee** (*Parus atricapillus*)---1927

State Song---"**State of Maine Song**," words and music by Roger Vinton Snow---Uncertain

State Flower---**White Pine Cone and tassel** (*Pinus strobus*, *Linnaeus*)---1895

State Fish---**Landlocked Salmon** (*Salmo salar Sebago*)---1969

Official Mineral---**Tourmaline**---1971

State Insect---**Honeybee** (*Apis mellifera*)---1975

State Animal---**Moose**---1979

State Fossil---***Pertica quadrifaria***---1985

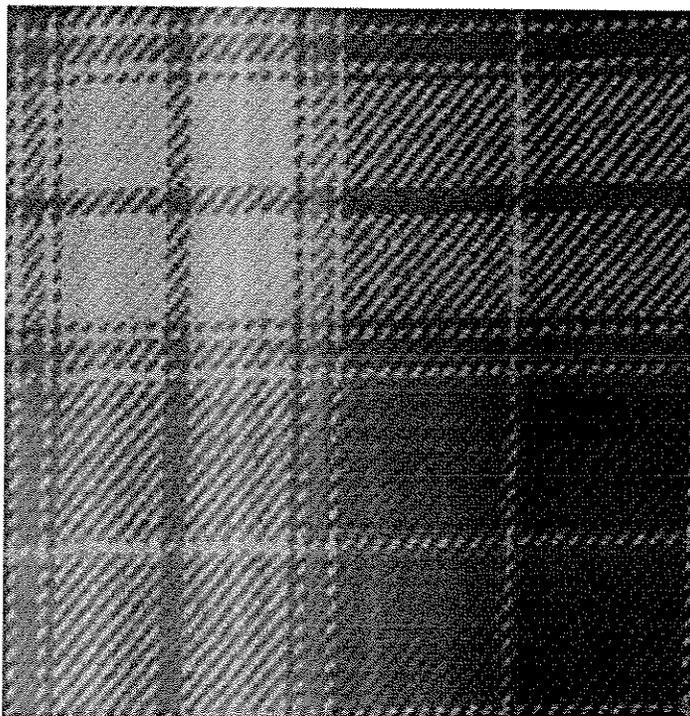
State Cat---**Maine Coon Cat**---1985

State Vessel---**The Schooner "Bowdoin"**---1987

State Berry---**The wild blueberry** (*Vaccinium angustifolium*, *Aiton*)---1991

Official State Language of the Deaf Community---**American Sign Language**---1991

Maine also has a State Tartan, designed in 1964 by Sol Gillis. It is the oldest State Tartan in the U.S. and is registered with the Scottish Tartans Society in Scotland and It is also registered with the Tartan Education and Cultural Association (TECA) a US based (Pennsylvania) tartan society, doing here in the US what the Scottish Tartans Society was/is doing in Scotland, namely registering tartans, especially the new ones that are being designed almost daily and the Scottish Tartans AUTHORITY, based in Scotland. The Maine Tartan was first woven in Maine by Jane Holmes of Plymouth, ME in 1988 and items made from the fabric are made and sold by her company, the Maine Tartan and Tweed Co. The Maine State Tartan was copyrighted in 1988 by the MTTCo. Items made out of the Maine Tartan are also available from the Maine State Museum Gift Shop in Augusta, My Maine Bag in Bangor, and Just Me in Portland.



Maine State Tartan © 1988 MTTCo., Plymouth, Maine

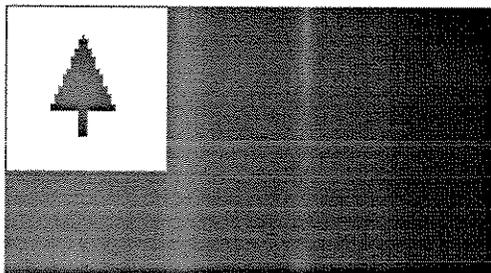
Light blue stands for the sky; dark blue for the waters; green for the forests; and the red bloodline for the people of Maine.

By the mid-eighteenth century, the Plymouth Colony had established forts along the Kennebec River in Maine for the purposes of fur trading. By 1765, this corporation had developed a separate seal for these operations.

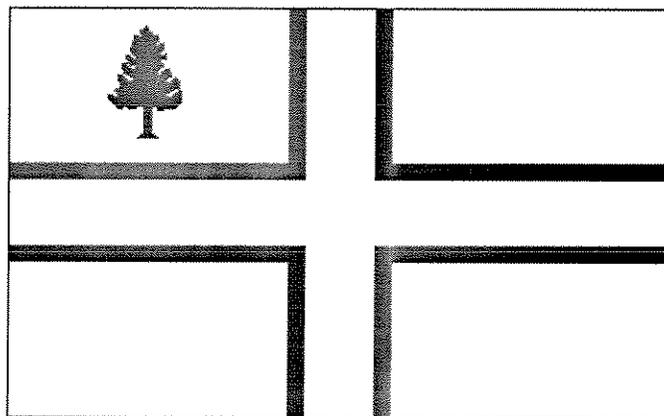


Plymouth Colony Seal used in Maine 1765

The New England Flag of 1775 was remembered by Lincoln County when they were adopting a flag in 1977. Many Lincoln County men rushed off to Boston in 1775 to fight for independence and a regiment raised solely in Lincoln County saw action at Bunker Hill.



Flag of Lincoln County, 1977 (New England Flag, 1775)



Huguenot Society of Maine, 1991

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Web design by: **Dave Martucci** (vex@midcoast.com)
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The official website of the Maine Office of Tourism

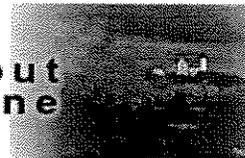
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The Pine Tree State

Maine is recognized as one of the most healthful states in the nation with summer temperatures averaging 70F and winter temperatures averaging 20 F. It has 5,500 miles of coastline, is about 320 miles long and 210 miles wide, with a total area of 33,215 square miles or about as big as all of the other five New England States combined. It's comprised of 16 counties with 22 cities, 435 towns, 33 plantations, 424 unorganized townships and 3 Indian reservations.

Maine abounds in natural assets - 542,629 acres of state and national parks, including the 92-mile Allagash Wilderness Waterway, Acadia National Park (one of the top ten most visited national parks in the United States), and Baxter State Park (location of Mt. Katahdin and the northern end of the Appalachian Trail). It has one county (Aroostook) so big (6,453 square miles) that it actually covers an area greater than the combined size of Connecticut and Rhode Island. Maine has one mountain which is approximately one mile high - Mt. Katahdin (5,271 ft. above sea level) and also claims America's first chartered city: York, 1641.

Maine produces 99% of all the blueberries in the country making it the single largest producer of blueberries in the United States. Potatoes rank 7th in acreage and 10th in annual production. Maine is nationally famed for its shellfish; over 47 million pounds of lobster were harvested in 1998. The total of all shellfish and fin fish harvested was approximately 247 million pounds with a total value of \$277 million in 1998.

State...

Capital: Augusta

Population: Approximately 1.2 million

Gemstone: Tourmaline

Fossil: Pertica quadrifaria

Cat: Maine Coon Cat

Insect: Honeybee

Animal: Moose

Flag: The coat of arms of the State of Maine is placed on a blue field of the same shade of blue in the flag of the United States. Adopted by the Legislature of 1909.

Motto: Dirigo (I lead)

Tree: White Pine, adopted by the Legislature of 1945.