

# **Update: MSAC Land Acknowledgement Project**

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## Project Goals

### Goals:

- Work to undo “Indigenous erasure”
- Deepen relationships between tribal peoples in Maryland and MSAC to increase funding to tribal peoples
- Invite tribal communities to craft appropriate language for a land acknowledgement for each set of tribal homelands
- Develop publicly-accessible form of acknowledgement statements



*The Potomac River viewed from Piscataway Indian Nation burial grounds on Piscataway Homelands, 2013 Heritage Award Winner. Photo by Edwin Remsburg Photographs.*

## Project Timeline

- 2020: relationship building
- Jan-June 2021: eight compensated tribal consultations
- June-July 2021: create draft materials
- Aug 2021: MSAC review
- Sept-Dec 2021: Tribal review
- December 2021: Tribal Convening
- Jan 2022: Assistant Attorney General review
- Jan-Feb: Department of Commerce and Governor's office reviews
- March 2022: publish public materials



*Art by Jessica Clark (Lumbee) and Ashley Minner (Lumbee).*

# Public Materials

MSAC.org/resources/land-acknowledgements

- Land acknowledgement overview
- Project overview
- Key concepts
- Tribal histories, maps, land acknowledgements
- Additional resources



## Land Acknowledgement Project Overview and Resource Guide

Published: February 18, 2022

Updated: March 18, 2022



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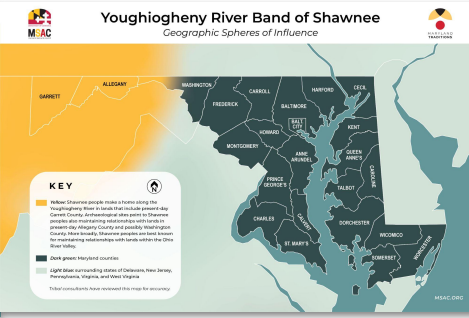
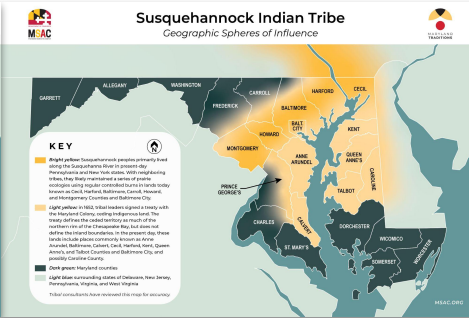
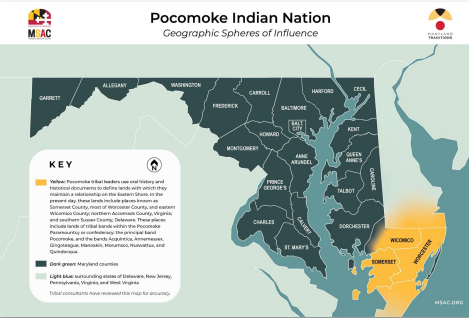
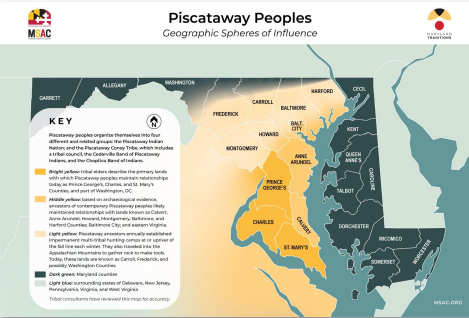
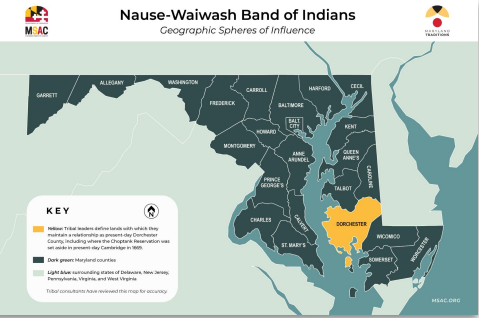
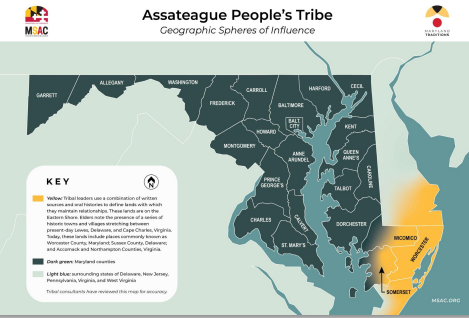
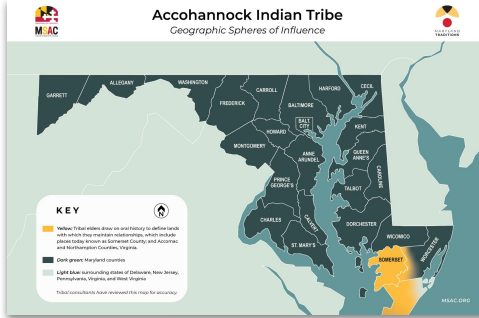
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## State-wide Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the lands and waters now known as Maryland are the home of its first peoples: the Accohannock Indian Tribe, Assateague People's Tribe, Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians, Choptico Band of Indians, Lenape Tribe, Nanticoke Tribe, Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Piscataway Conoy Tribe, Piscataway Indian Nation, Pocomoke Indian Nation, Susquehannock Indians, Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee, and tribes in the Chesapeake watershed who have seemingly vanished since the coming of colonialism. We acknowledge that this land is now home to other tribal peoples living here in diaspora. We acknowledge the forced removal of many from the lands and waterways that nurtured them as kin. We acknowledge the degradation that continues to be wrought on the land and waters in pursuit of resources. We acknowledge the right of the land and waterways to heal so that they can continue to provide food and medicine for all. We acknowledge that it is our collective obligation to pursue policies and practices that respect the land and waters so that our reciprocal relationship with them can be fully restored.

# Tribal Maps Available at MSAC.org





## Coalitions

- Curricula: Connecting tribal people with curriculum development tools, connecting educators with tribal peoples and curricula
- Archives: Connecting tribal people with Maryland State Archives staff to advise on centralizing colonial, Indigenous-focused records into searchable database; available late summer 2022
- Institutional resources: Connecting tribal people with institutions to make institutional resources available to tribes



*Bending Waters Park and Indian River Trails on Accohannock Homelands, recipient of the 2014 Heritage Award in the category of place. Photo by Edwin Remsberg Photographs.*

## Questions?

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