

STATE TREE

Maryland has chosen for its tree the White Oak (*Quercus alba*). The magnificent specimen shown among the illustrations of Maryland's symbols is known as the Wye Oak and is located at Wye Mills on the Eastern Shore. It is now owned by the State (Chapter 731, Acts of 1941; Code 1957, 1971. Repl Vol., Art. 41, sec. 76).

STATE BIRD

The Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) is the official Maryland Bird, designated by the General Assembly (Chapter 54, Acts of 1947). Special provisions have been made for its protection (Chapter 154, Acts of 1882) (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 77).

STATE DOG

By Chapter 156, Acts of 1964, the Chesapeake Bay Retriever was declared to be the official Dog of Maryland (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 77B).

STATE FLOWER

The Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) is the official Maryland Flower, designated by the General Assembly (Chapter 458, Acts of 1918). A yellow daisy, or coneflower it blooms in late summer (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 75).

MARYLAND SPORT

By Chapter 134, Acts of 1962, the age old equestrian sport of Jousting was proclaimed as the official sport of the State of Maryland (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 79A).

STATE INSECT

The Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas phaeton*) was declared to be the official arthropodic emblem of the State of Maryland by the General Assembly by Chapter 253, Acts of 1973 (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., 1973 Supp., Art. 41, sec. 77C).

MARYLAND'S NICKNAMES

Although Maryland's nicknames are not official State Symbols, the State is known both as the "Old Line State" and the "Free State."

During the Revolutionary War, Maryland received its nickname of the "Old Line State." According to some historians, it was presumably given by Gen. George Washington because of the magnificent performance of the State's regular troops of the line in several of the more important engagements. In this connection, military writers have stated that the troops of the Maryland Line ranked among the finest in the Continental Army and were "held in admirable discipline" as distinguished from the militia, which fought in guerilla fashion. (See: WPA Writers' Project, *Maryland: A Guide to the Old Line State* (New York, 1940), p. 37.

The nickname of "Free State" is of twentieth century origin. It was invented by Hamilton Owens, editor of the *Baltimore Sun*. Some-