



**William Francis Galvin**  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**SECRETARY GALVIN ANNOUNCES MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH  
OCTOBER 2012**

**Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin** announced today that **October is Massachusetts Archaeology Month 2012**. Organized by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) and the State Archaeologist, this is the **21st annual** celebration of archaeology in Massachusetts. Archaeology Month features more than 88 events across the Commonwealth that promote awareness of the Commonwealth's rich archaeological past through fun and engaging programs. This year's theme is "Features of the Past."

"During Archaeology Month, there is something for everyone who has a curiosity about the past. I urge everyone to take part in these events to gain a deeper knowledge of Massachusetts and its archaeological past," said Secretary Galvin, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Archaeology Month offers a variety of programs for adults, children, parents, and teachers. Programs highlight local history as well as archaeology around the world. Events include lectures, tours, storytelling, exhibits, walks, and demonstrations; and will be held in the following communities: Acton, Amesbury, Andover, Arlington, Barnstable, Billerica, Boston, Brewster, Bridgewater, Cambridge, Concord, Dennis, Duxbury, East Brookfield, Eastham, Gloucester, Groton, Haverhill, Hudson, Kingston, Lowell, Marshfield, Medford, Middleborough, Milton, Newbury, North Adams, Norwell, Paxton, Pelham, Plymouth, Pittsfield, Quincy, Randolph, Rockland, Rowe, Salem, Shrewsbury, Springfield, Stoneham, Sudbury, Tewksbury, Waltham, and Wayland.

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State House, Room 337, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Highlights include: a Family Archaeology Fair at the Museum of Science in Boston, a canoe tour of archaeology on the Taunton River, Industrial Archaeology at the American Textile Museum in Lowell, and a Native American Harvest Festival in Springfield.

**The Calendar of Events and Poster for Massachusetts Archaeology Month are available for immediate download at MHC's website ([www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)).** Printed posters and calendars are also available, call the MHC 617-727-8470 to receive a mailed copy. In addition to the event listings, the calendar includes information about Massachusetts museums with archaeology programs and archaeological websites. Special resources for teachers including archaeology related lesson plans are available at MHC's website. The poster features archaeologists working at the Fairbanks House in Dedham, the oldest timber-frame house in North America, built in the early 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Here they have uncovered a stone foundation and cobbled floor which, based on its size, was most likely part of a barn associated with the Fairbanks House.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission is the office of the State Historic Preservation Officer and the State Archaeologist. It was established in 1963 to identify, evaluate, and protect important historical and archaeological assets of the Commonwealth.

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