



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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SECRETARY GALVIN ANNOUNCES MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH OCTOBER 2011

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin announced today that **October is Massachusetts Archaeology Month 2011**. Organized by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) and the State Archaeologist, this is the **20th annual** celebration of archaeology in Massachusetts. Archaeology Month features more than 95 events across the Commonwealth that promote awareness of the Commonwealth's rich archaeological past through fun and engaging programs. This year's theme is "Step Back in Time."

"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, Barnstable, Billerica, Boston, Brewster, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Concord, Deerfield, Dedham, Dennis, Duxbury, Eastham, Edgartown, Greenfield, Groveland, Hamilton, Hatfield, Haverhill, Hinsdale, Hull, Ipswich, Lowell, Marshfield, Medford, Melrose, Middleborough, Nantucket, Newton, North Adams, North Reading, Norwell, Palmer, Pittsfield, Plymouth, Quincy, Salem, Sandwich, Shrewsbury, South Hadley, Sturbridge, Topsfield, Waltham, Wayland, Wellfleet, West Brookfield, Westwood, Winchester, Worcester, and Yarmouth. Highlights include: a Family Archaeology Fair at the Museum of Science in Boston, maritime archaeology at the Cape Cod Maritime Museum in Barnstable, a tour of an industrial archaeology site in Greenfield, and a flintknapping demonstration in Hinsdale.

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). 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 a gentleman's Wellington riding boot, circa 1805 to 1823, discovered at the Mill Pond Site near Dock Square and the North End of Boston, and part of the archaeological collections of the Commonwealth, which are curated at the MHC's Archaeological Curation Center.

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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