

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

MARYLAND HORSE MONTH OCTOBER 2024

WHEREAS,

Maryland is a horse legacy state that embraces everyone who wants to be a part of the horse world and express their love of horses; and

WHEREAS,

Maryland continues to have more horses per square mile than any other state in the United States, generating an annual economic impact of \$2.9 billion and maintaining vitally important open space; and

WHEREAS,

During October, all of Maryland's horse industry is highlighted with more than 5,000 horses, ponies, and donkeys on display in more than 60 events statewide, generating more than 100,000 spectator visits and millions of online views; and

WHEREAS,

These displays range from two 5 Star events at Fair Hill and Prince George's Equestrian Center, Maryland's "Day at the Races" at the Maryland Millton, harness racing, jousting, horse shows, eventing, farm visits, open barns and more; and

WHEREAS,

The state's equine industry includes farriers, small business owners, farmers, feed dealers, tack shops, veterinarians, owners, trainers, exercise riders, fox chasing clubs, steeplechase participants, therapeutic riding centers, breeders, horse riding clubs and teams, 4-H and Pony Club youth programs, rodeo participants, racing participants, and many others; and

WHEREAS;

The State of Maryland has been selected to host an international 5 Star equestrian three-day event at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Special Event Zone, making it one of only seven in the world at this competition level; and

WHEREAS,

The prestigious Washington International Horse Show in Upper Marlboro; the must-visit Maryland Horse Library and Education Center on Main Street Reisterstown documents our centuries-old equine legacy; and in Baltimore, the newly-planned Pimlico Race Course, is home of the Preakness; and

WHEREAS,

All Maryland equine experiences available to the public, from the Assateague Ponies on the Eastern Shore to trail riding stables in the mountains of Garrett County are to be treasured and preserved, and

WHEREAS,

Maryland appreciates the equine industry for its contribution to the economic, environmental, and cultural health of our great state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 2024 as MARYLAND HORSE MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,

this 1st day of October

Two Thousand and twenty-four


Governor


Lt. Governor


Secretary of State

Secretary of State