



Proclamation

Montgomery County Maryland

- WHEREAS,** the landing of Christopher Columbus on an island in the Caribbean marked the beginning of the conquest, enslavement, displacement and disease of indigenous peoples; and
- WHEREAS,** more than 70 jurisdictions and seven states recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day in acknowledgement of the past and in commitment to creating a more inclusive future; and
- WHEREAS,** as demonstrated by the 2020 U.S. Census 31,845 people identified in the State of Maryland as wholly or partly of Native American descent; and
- WHEREAS,** the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs recognizes the Accohannock Indian Tribe; the Assateague Peoples Tribe; the Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians; the Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians; the Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Sub-Tribes; the Piscataway Indian Nation; the Pocomoke Indian Nation; and the Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee Indians as the nations original to the DC Capital region; and
- WHEREAS,** Montgomery County is committed to addressing historic racial disparities, remaining inspired by the cultures, stewardship, and resilience of indigenous peoples, providing an accurate history and celebrating their proud legacies; and
- WHEREAS,** given his well-documented list of crimes committed against Indigenous peoples throughout the Continent, this Administration recognizes that the legacy of Christopher Columbus must be reassessed.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I,

Marc Elrich, as County Executive of Montgomery County, Maryland, hereby recognize that the second Monday in October is known in Montgomery County as

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

to acknowledge and celebrate the cultures and sacrifice of the first people on this land, include it in our Days of Commemoration, and encourage all of our communities to learn the histories, narratives and cultures of our country's Native People

Signed this 11th day of October in the year 2021


MARC ELRICH
County Executive

