



# STATE OVERVIEW: MARYLAND




- **Office Created:** 2021
- **Created by:** [Budget Line Item](#)
- **Signed Confluence Accords:** 2022
- **Agency:** Department of Natural Resources
- **Funding:** General Funds
- **Advisory Board:** N/A
- **Population:** 6.165 million


- **Top Outdoor Industries:** Boating/Fishing, RVing, Hiking, Wildlife Viewing, Hunting/Shooting/Trapping
- **Top Outdoor Destinations:** State Parks, East Coast Greenway, Chesapeake Bay, Mountain Maryland, and Atlantic Ocean Access Points

## BRIEF HISTORY

The Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission (MOREC) was established by the Governor through an Executive Order in 2017. MOREC delivered their final report in 2019 recommending the creation of an outdoor recreation office. Governor Larry Hogan created the Office of Outdoor Recreation within the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in 2021 to support and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities across the state.

## STATE SUCCESSES

 **Ecological Restoration:** In July 2022, Governor Larry Hogan and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced the award of \$18.8 million to 22 ecological restoration projects that will improve water quality and habitat in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, while building local resilience to climate impacts.

 **Funding:** The Governor's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget included \$5 million to 39 local projects statewide, providing greater access to outdoor recreation for all Marylanders. This provides funding to municipalities to rehabilitate, expand, or improve existing parks, create new parks, or purchase and install playground equipment.

### The Outdoor Recreation Economy Impact in Maryland

**Direct Jobs: 80,391**

**Wages and Salaries: \$3.9 billion**

**Total Outdoor Recreation Value Added: \$8.3 billion**



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