



DELA... WHERE?



STATE INSECTS

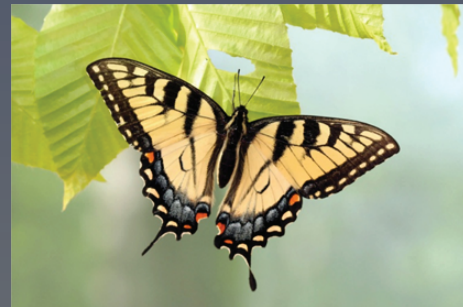


Ladybug

Adopted April 25, 1974, the Ladybug was chosen by the Legislature after an intensive effort on the insect's behalf by Mrs. Mollie Brown-Rust and her 2nd grade students of the Lulu M. Ross Elementary School in Milford, Delaware.

Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly

Adopted on June 10, 1999, the Tiger Swallowtail was declared the State's official butterfly. The tiger swallowtail, a large, yellow, black-striped butterfly, is indigenous to Delaware and can be seen in deciduous woods, along streams, rivers, and wooded swamps, and in towns and cities throughout Delaware.





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STATE BIRD



Blue Hen

During the Revolutionary War, the men of Captain Jonathan Caldwell's company, took with them chickens that were said to be of the brood of a famous Blue Hen and were noted for their fighting ability. The Delaware men fought so valiantly that they were compared to these fighting Blue Hens for their toughness and grit.

Today, Sussex County Delaware raises more broiler chickens than any other county in the United States.

DYK? A 10 foot diameter frying pan was used during the Delmarva Chicken Festival of 1950, able to hold 180 gallons of oil and capable of cooking 800 chicken quarters.





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STATE TREE

American Holly

The Holly tree is regarded as one of Delaware's most important forest trees. Often called Christmas holly or evergreen holly, the tree has dark, thorny-leaved foliage and red berries. In Delaware, the tree can reach a maximum of 60 feet in height and a trunk diameter of 20 inches.





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STATE FLOWER



Peach blossom

Delaware was designated the peach blossom as the official state flower symbol in 1895 because of Delaware's reputation as "The Peach State". Peach farming is an important part of Delaware's agricultural heritage, as the peach was introduced to Delaware in Colonial times and expanded as an industry in the nineteenth century. Delaware was the country's leading

producer of peaches for part of the nineteenth century, at its peak, shipping 6 million baskets to market in 1875.

Wyoming was a peach center of Delaware in the 1880's. In the record year of 1875, between 5-6 million baskets of Delaware peaches were shipped by rail.

On July 30, 2009, peach pie was designated as Delaware's official State dessert. The fifth and sixth grade students of St. John's Lutheran School in Dover, with the support of the entire student body, suggested that peach pie be adopted as this State's official dessert because of the historical and agricultural significance of Delaware's peach farming industry.

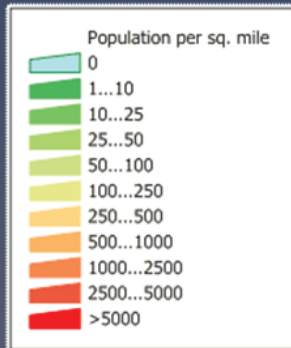




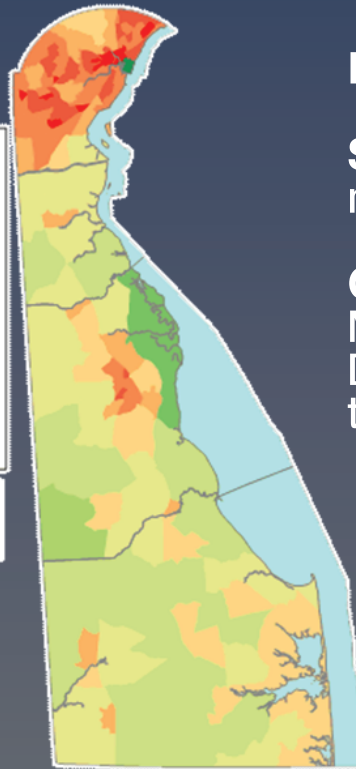
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Delaware by the Numbers



Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Census 2000 Summary File 1
population by census tract.



Population: 935,000 residents

Square miles: 1,982 square miles (2nd smallest state)

Only 3 Counties:
New Castle, Kent and Sussex.
Delaware has fewer counties than any state!





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DELAWARE NICKNAMES

The First State

On December 7, 1787, Delaware became the first of the 13 original states to ratify the U.S. Constitution. "The First State" became the official State nickname on May 23, 2002 following a request by Mrs. Anabelle O'Malley's First Grade Class at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School.

The Diamond State

Thomas Jefferson gave this nickname to Delaware, according to legend, because he described Delaware as a "jewel" among states due to its natural beauty and its strategic location on the Eastern Seaboard close to the major cities of Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York City.

Small Wonder

This nickname was given to Delaware due to its size and the contributions it has made to our country as a whole and the beauty of Delaware.

State Motto: Liberty and Independence

DYK? Delaware takes its name from Thomas West, 3rd Baron De La Warr, an English nobleman and Virginia's first colonial governor.

