



### The Seal of Allegany County, Maryland

The seal uniquely identifies Allegany County, Maryland. The seal was last redesigned for America's Bicentennial Celebration in 1976.

The Allegany County seal has **four sections**.

The line pointing **west** is an **arrow**. Allegany County now is the second most western county in the State of Maryland and was the Gateway to the West. The City of Cumberland, the county seat, has the Narrows, a rare natural gorge. The Narrows provided a passageway through the mountains for the early pioneers headed to the new western frontier. The arrow represents the county's Indian heritage.

**Wheat**, at the intersection of the lines, was on the first seal and represents the county's agricultural heritage.

Allegany County has the four seasons of the year and the best of Mother Nature: **mountains** and valleys, farmland and forests, **rivers** and streams. Allegany County has abundant natural resources. Allegany County was officially created in **1789**.

Allegany County was a manufacturing center (factory, smokestack). In the past, the Luke Mill, a fine quality paper industry giant, was the oldest manufacturer in Allegany County and operated here for over 130 years. At the height of manufacturing, in addition to West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company (Luke Mill), Kelly-Springfield Tire Company (Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company) manufactured tires here, fabric was produced by Celanese Corporation of America, and window glass came from Pittsburgh Plate Glass. Allegany County also had a manufacturing history in the glass and beer industries.

Now, Allegany County is a center for health care. The Western Maryland Health System joined the University of Pittsburgh in 2020. UPMC - Western Maryland is the county's largest employer. The higher education sector represents the county's second largest employer. Allegany County is home to Frostburg State University in the University System of Maryland and Allegany College of Maryland. Allegany County's largest manufacturers are Hunter Douglas Northeast (window coverings) and American Woodmark (wooden bath and kitchen cabinets).

The **wheel** symbolizes Allegany County's rich transportation heritage. The National Road, the first federally funded road and today's U.S. Route 40, was built through Allegany County. An original **toll house** is now a museum and represents the era of horse drawn stagecoaches and wagon trains. The pre-automobile era is showcased in the Thrasher Carriage Museum in Frostburg. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (**railroad car**) and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal (**canal barge**) transported raw natural resources, coal (**pick and shovel**) and timber, from the mountains for use in the metropolitan areas. Today, the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad is in operation and winds through the mountains and valleys.

Many types of outdoor recreational adventures await you in Allegany County. The Great Allegheny Passage, a biking - hiking trail between Washington, D.C., and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is enjoyed by residents and visitors along the railroad bed and canal pathway through Allegany County. Maryland's only Jack Nicklaus designed golf course, Rocky Gap, is in Allegany County.

Architecturally distinctive **buildings** and **steeples** represent the cultural and religious heritage. Today, the steeples, outlined in white lights at night, are a focal point in Historic Downtown Cumberland. Allegany County has arts and entertainment districts in two cities, Cumberland and Frostburg. There is something for everyone here. Rocky Gap Casino Resort draws people from the Middle Atlantic. The Allegany County Fairgrounds is the home of DelFest, the musical festival started by the legendary musical artist, Del McCoury.

The Allegany County Commissioners invite you to explore Allegany County for yourself!