

## Land Acknowledgement for Pennsylvania

*FACILITATORS: This paragraph is a [Land Acknowledgement](#) for reading at the start of a meeting or event, Depending on time limitations, the first two sentences may be removed, starting with “We in Pennsylvania acknowledge.... “ If you will be speaking with a local League, name the nation or nations of that League Community’s jurisdiction.*

“We begin this time together with a Land Acknowledgement. Colonial PA boundaries were first drawn in 1681, over the original nation's land.

We in [Pennsylvania](#) acknowledge the land ownership of original indigenous peoples, honoring the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the great nations of Pennsylvania: Erie, Iroquois, Munsee Delaware, Shawnee, Ohio Valley, Susquehannock, and Lenape. We honor all original nations of the past and those among us today.”

Statement of purpose:

A territorial or land acknowledgement today is an act of reconciliation that involves making a statement recognizing the traditional territory of the Indigenous people who called the land home before European contact and colonialism, and before genocide and the taking of unceded land.

Beginning meetings with a Land Acknowledgement is done willingly and with respect. It further reminds us of our historic origins and history’s continued effect on the present. It symbolically reminds us today to form policies and programs through the lens of inclusion in order to equitably serve everyone in the Commonwealth.

Land acknowledgement is a practice of honoring land that goes back generations among Indigenous Nations. Traditionally visiting people showing respect for the host nation, naming the place upon which they stand and the peoples who were/are its stewards.

[Pronunciation](#) of Haudenosaunee Confederacy

Haudenosaunee (hoe-dee-no-SHOW-nee)

The name of the Iroquois people and now more widely referring to the extended alliance or Confederation among six Indigenous American nations.

Sources: [What is a Land Acknowledgement?](#)

[What is the Significance of Acknowledging Indigenous Land we Stand on?](#)

Robin Wall Kimmerer. 2013. Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants. Milkweed Editions. Canada.

[Haudenosaunee Guide for Educators](#) (online source)