



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY POLICY MANUAL

Policy: 206	Title: Museum and Archaeological Collections
Date Approved: 1/24/2018	Last reviewed: 6/26/2013
Objective: <u>Natural and Cultural Resources</u> Ensure the long-term protection, preservation, and sustainability of natural, cultural, and park resources in accordance with adopted park standards and adherence to natural and cultural resource management guidelines, policies, and related plans.	

Purpose: In support of its cultural resource stewardship mission, the Fairfax County Park Authority shall collect, preserve, exhibit, interpret, and where appropriate, make available for research, museum objects, archaeologically-derived artifacts, and other material culture.

Policy Statement:

1. The Park Authority shall ensure that collections under its stewardship are protected, secure, unencumbered, cared for, accounted for, and documented. The Park Authority will strive to ensure that archaeological and museum collections are stored in an appropriate facility with adequate storage, climate control and conditions, according to best practices, and shall plan for their future needs and growth.
2. Acquisition, loan, deaccessioning and disposal activities shall be conducted in a manner that respects the protection and preservation of cultural resources and discourages and prevents illicit trade in such materials. Collections-related activities shall promote the public's understanding and appreciation for our past over financial gain.
3. The Park Authority shall subscribe to the American Association of Museums (AAM) "*Code of Ethics for Museums*" as it applies to museum collections, the Museum Collections Policy, and all collections management procedures.
4. The Park Authority shall maintain detailed guidelines and procedures for the management and care of the museum collections and archaeological collections in respective conformity to the professional standards established by the AAM, Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR), and federal collections management standards, and shall revise those guidelines and procedures as needed to comply with current professional standards and guidelines. These are defined in *Guidelines and Procedures for Museum Collections Management*.

Policy 206 Museum and Archaeological Collections (continued)

References:

1. VDHR Collections Management Standards
http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/Collections%20Mgmt%20Standards%2016June2011.pdf, page 162
2. Code of Ethics for Museums
<http://aam-us.org/resources/ethics-standards-and-best-practices/code-of-ethics-for-museums>
3. Guidelines and Procedures for Museum Collections Management

Supporting Documentation:

1. Curation of Federally Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections (36 CFR 79)
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/CFR-2012-title36-vol1/CFR-2012-title36-vol1-part79>
2. NPS Archeology Laws and Ethics
<https://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/publicLaw.htm>
3. Cultural Resource Management Plan
<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sites/parks/files/assets/documents/naturalcultural/crmpfinal.pdf>