

## A Guide to Terminology for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

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The National Park Service (NPS) Chesapeake Bay Office uses this style guide when communicating with partners and preparing brochures, waysides, exhibits, and other media for the general public. It supplements the NPS *Harpers Ferry Center Editorial Style Guide*<sup>1</sup> and includes terms and phrases specific to the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

This guide is intended to assist NPS staff and partners in maintaining a consistent standard for communications and interpretive products. It is an evolving document that will continue to be updated and edited as new information is brought to our attention.

<b>Algonquian</b> <b>Algonquins</b>	A family of American Indian languages that dominated the mid-Atlantic coastal region at the time of English contact. Should not be confused with Algonquin, which refers to First Peoples of eastern Canada. Use to refer to the language, not a specific people: <i>Tidewater Virginia Indians spoke Algonquian.</i> <i>The Powhatan were Algonquian-speaking people.</i>
<b>A.D.</b>	Avoid this religious reference. Use CE (common era) instead. <i>See</i> CE, eras.
<b>America</b>	Use sparingly as a synonym for the United States of America; consider context
<b>American</b>	Use sparingly to describe people who live in the United States of America; consider context
<b>American Indian</b>	Generic identifier preferred by the American Indian tribes who live in the Chesapeake Bay region. Use tribal names whenever possible, accurate, and appropriate. The singular form of the tribal name is preferred when referring to the tribe as a group. (See tribal name.) <i>The Monacan were recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1989.</i>
<b>archeology,</b> <b>archeologist</b> <b>archaeology</b>	no "a." The scientific study of prehistoric and historic peoples and their cultures by analysis of their artifacts, inscriptions, monuments, etc. <i>An archeologist is a specialist in archeology.</i>
<b>Arrohateck</b>	An Indian town once located on what is now the James River, depicted on John Smith's 1608 map. <i>There is a replica Arrohateck town at Henricus Historical Park.</i>
<b>bald cypress</b>	Two words; lowercase

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<sup>1</sup> The NPS HFC Editorial Style Guide is available at: [https://www.nps.gov/hfc/pdf/hfcstyleguide\\_july2013.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/hfc/pdf/hfcstyleguide_july2013.pdf)



<b>Bay, bay</b>	<p>When referring to the Chesapeake Bay, capitalize. When referring to bays in general, or to a specific bay other than the Chesapeake, such as the Delaware Bay, do not capitalize. When using as an adjective, capitalization depends on context.</p> <p><i>Atlantic Sturgeon are showing signs of recovery after nearly disappearing from the Bay.</i> (Chesapeake specific)</p> <p><i>A bay is a great place to go sailing.</i> (general)</p> <p><i>The program collects and provides many bay resources for public use.</i> (adjective, general). But, <i>The program collects and provides many Bay-related resources.</i> (Chesapeake specific)</p>
<b>bay grasses</b>	Do not capitalize; it is a common name for submerged aquatic vegetation.
<b>Baywide, baywide</b>	Follow same capitalization guide as for Bay/bay. Usage without a hyphen is preferred; be consistent within the publication.
<b>B.C.</b>	Avoid this religious reference. Use BCE (before common era) instead. <i>See</i> BCE, eras.
<b>BCE</b>	Before common era; replaces B.C. Clarify at first mention. <i>See</i> CE.
<b>boat launch</b>	<p>Preferred over boat ramp (ramps are paved; boat launches include paved and unpaved entrances).</p> <p><i>A new boat launch at Belle Isle State Park provides access to the Lower Rappahannock River.</i></p>
<b>ca.</b>	<p>Avoid writing “ca.,” or “circa” in running text--rewrite or use “about”--<i>but</i> use abbreviation in short captions or credit lines.</p> <p><i>The trade copper recovered at Werowocomoco dates to about 1609.</i></p> <p><i>Sea turtle and sturgeon paintings by John White, ca. 1585, British Museum.</i></p>
<b>CAJO</b>	National Park Service alpha code for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Use only for internal communications, not for public. <i>See</i> alternative short forms below for the trail name.
<b>Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail</b>	<p>Official name of the trail. Note: Historic, not Historical.</p> <p>Use full name at first mention; then may shorten to Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT or Chesapeake Trail. Variations of John Smith Trail or Smith Trail are now discouraged because of effort to reflect the broader Chesapeake and not appear to celebrate a single person.</p>
<b>CE</b>	<p>Common era; replaces A.D. Clarify at first mention. <i>See also</i> BCE.</p> <p><i>Two small areas were found on the York River bluff that contained artifacts dating to the Middle Woodland Period, approximately 500 BCE (before common era) to</i></p>

	<i>900 CE (common era).</i>
<b>century</b>	<p>Best to use actual dates: the 1500s not the 16th century. The latter requires mental translation for many people. However, after first mention, or if context makes the dates clear, the century reference can be used: <i>Learn more about 17th-century landscapes and industry at these places.</i></p> <p>Preferred: <i>Explore the landscapes of the early 1600s along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.</i></p> <p>Unless clarified at first mention avoid: <i>Corn was important to the survival of everyone living in Virginia in the early 17th century.</i></p>
<b>Chesapeake Bay</b>	<p>Used as a noun this refers to the actual body of water having that name: <i>The website described the Chesapeake Bay as the largest estuary in North America.</i></p> <p>Used as an adjective it can have broader meaning in defining the geographic watershed or cultural region associated with the Bay. <i>Tourism is growing in the Chesapeake Bay region.</i></p>
<b>Chesapeake Bay watershed</b>	Refers to the 64,000-square-mile area that drains into the Chesapeake Bay. The word “watershed” should not be capitalized.
<b>Chesapeake Indians</b>	Avoid unless referring to the specific tribe in the Lynnhaven Bay/Elizabeth River area. They were apparently eliminated by Powhatan about the time the English arrived in 1607.
<b>Chesapeake Trail</b>	Preferred shortened name for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Use full name at first mention. See note above for Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.
<b>chief</b>	A leader of a group of people; an individual that holds the highest authority. Among contemporary tribes, usage as an honorific for the tribe’s leader varies.
<b>Chief Powhatan</b>	<p>Avoid when referring to the paramount chief Powhatan; instead use “Powhatan” or “paramount chief Powhatan,” or describe him as an influential political and spiritual leader, without using a title.</p> <p><i>Smith remained in the custody of paramount chief Powhatan for a month before returning to Jamestown.</i></p>
<b>chiefdom</b>	The area and scope to which a chief rules. Avoid using when describing the tributary nations of Powhatan.
<b>circa</b>	Avoid. See ca.

<b>colonial, colony</b>	<p>Lowercase as a descriptive designation of a period of time or when referring to a region or group of people controlled by a distant power. Capitalize if used as a proper noun.</p> <p><i>He is studying the colonial period of American history.</i></p> <p><i>The text describes the English colonies in Virginia.</i></p> <p>But: <i>He left Jamestown Colony in 1609.</i></p>
<b>confederacy</b>	Avoid using when describing the tributary nations of Powhatan
<b>contact</b>	<p>Capitalize when referring to the name of a specific cultural period, as in <i>Contact period</i>, <i>Contact era</i>, <i>pre-Contact settlement</i></p> <p>Lowercase in general usage: <i>The map shows the location of Indian towns at the time of first contact with Europeans.</i></p>
<b>costume</b>	Avoid when referring to American Indian clothing worn for powwows or ceremonial events; use “regalia” instead.
<b>crosscountry</b>	One word; no hyphen
<b>cultural landscape</b>	A geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person, or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values (See also, indigenous cultural landscape.)
<b>culture, cultures</b>	<p>Avoid using the phrase “American Indian culture.” There were numerous Indian cultures in the Chesapeake Bay region and hundreds in North America. Unless you are referring to only one tribal nation, you should use “cultures” instead.</p> <p><i>Smith’s map provides clues about cultures that had thrived here for thousands of years before English settlers arrived.</i></p> <p><i>Learn more about the Chickahominy culture by visiting exhibits at River’s Rest Marina, Chickahominy Riverfront Park, and Rockahock Campground.</i></p>
<b>descendant tribe/ community</b>	<p>Preferred spelling. Refers to Indian tribes/communities descended from specified ancestors.</p> <p><i>Today, eight descendant tribes claim heritage associated with Powhatan, including the Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Nansemond, Mattaponi, Upper Mattaponi, Pamunkey, and Rappahannock.</i></p>
<b>disappeared</b>	Avoid when referring to Chesapeake tribal nations.
<b>discover, discoverers, discovery</b>	<p>Avoid in reference to lands already populated; rewrite in a way that includes multiple points of view. Explore, chart, venture, scout are acceptable synonyms.</p> <p><i>Smith explored the Rappahannock River in 1607 and 1608. (He did not “discover” the river, because it was already populated and used by the indigenous people.)</i></p>



	Note, Smith and other writers at the time do use the word “discover,” and the shallop was often called the “Discovery barge.” If using the term in a historical context, use quotation marks and/or other way to make clear that this was contemporary usage and not the way we would perceive it today.
<b>dugout canoe</b>	Dugout is one word, no hyphen when referring to vessels commonly used by early Indians for water transportation.
<b>Earth, earth</b>	Earth is our planet; earth is soil or dirt.
<b>east, eastern</b>	Lowercase compass directions; minimize use of capital letters except for specific regions or popular place names, such as <i>Eastern Shore of Maryland</i> ; <i>East Coast (of U.S.)</i>
<b>Eastern Woodland Indians</b>	American Indians that inhabited the eastern part of North America. They were characterized by living in forests near lakes or streams and by obtaining food, shelter, clothing, etc. from the forests. <i>A majority of Eastern Woodland tribes spoke Iroquoian or Algonquian.</i>
<b>emperor</b>	Avoid in reference to Powhatan; instead use paramount chief (See Chief Powhatan above.)
<b>en route</b>	Two words; no hyphen
<b>enslaved</b>	Not slave. Enslaved acknowledges the dignity of a human being; slave is a non-person, property. Avoid in captions and titles. In text, first use “enslaved;” use slave sparingly thereafter. <i>The number of enslaved Africans increased significantly in the second half of the century, replacing indentured servants as the primary source of labor.</i>
<b>eras</b>	Write BCE (before common era) and CE (common era). Do not use B.C. or A.D. BP (before present) is a term found in scholarly works. <i>See also</i> BCE and CE. Era refers to a period of time characterized by a particular circumstance, event, or person. Generally lowercase. <i>The period when English colonists first began to encounter Indians in North America is sometimes referred to as the Contact era.</i> <i>The first people to settle permanently in the Tonto Basin arrived between 100 and 600 CE.</i>
<b>estuary</b>	A partially enclosed body of water where freshwater from rivers and streams mixes with saltwater from the ocean. It is an area of transition from land to sea. <i>The Chesapeake Bay is the largest of more than 100 estuaries in the United States and third largest in the world.</i>
<b>European American</b>	Not Euro-Americans. Be specific when possible and refer to country of origin.
<b>explorers</b>	Refers to people venturing into territory unknown to them. Avoid “discoverers” unless that is truly the case. In certain cases, the term “travelers” may be appropriate.

<b>extinct</b>	Avoid when referring to Chesapeake tribal nations.
<b>fall line</b>	An imaginary line, marked by waterfalls and rapids, where rivers descend abruptly from an upland to a lowland. <i>The Jamestown explorers could not navigate the shallop beyond the fall lines of the James, Rappahannock, Potomac, and Susquehanna rivers.</i>
<b>federal</b>	Generally lowercase: federal government, federal law, federal property, federal funds, federal treaty. Capitalize in Civil War context (Federal forces), when referring to Federal-style architecture, or when part of a name (Federal Trade Commission)
<b>First Nation, First Nations</b>	Avoid, unless referring to aboriginal people in Canada who are neither Inuit nor Metis. The terms are widely used in Canada, but not used in U.S. except in specific instances that are not relevant to this region.
<b>first people</b>	Can be used as a synonym for indigenous people when lowercase. Avoid using as a proper noun and capitalizing. Although this is sometimes used to refer to Virginia Native Americans, it does not seem to have wide acceptance.
<b>fish, fishes</b>	Fish (no es) can be singular or plural. Fishes (plural) is correct but used less often; it usually refers to more than one species.  <i>We went fishing for brook trout and caught six fish (single species). Ichthyology is the study of fishes (many species). The Smithsonian Institution’s fish collection, about four million specimens, is the largest in the world.</i>
<b>fresh water; freshwater</b>	Two words if used as a noun; one word if used as an adjective.
<b>game</b>	Dictionary defines as “wild animals, birds, or fish hunted for food or sport.” Whether to use depends on context. In Smith’s time, it was likely not used, but it would be OK in modern usage, such as referring to a place where hunting for game is permitted. Best to avoid when referring to wildlife. Say wildlife, animals, or be specific.
<b>gender neutral language</b>	Take care to achieve gender neutrality. “They” and “their” should not be used as first-person pronouns. Also avoid he/she or s/he, Consider these tactics: Use an article instead of a pronoun ( <i>The author should review the pages [not his pages] carefully.</i> )  <i>Instead of If a student is accused of plagiarism, he must appear before the ethics council, try: A student who is accused of plagiarism must appear..., or If a student is accused of plagiarism, he or she must appear....</i>
<b>geographic names</b>	Place names with Fort, Mount, Port, etc. should be spelled out unless space is a premium. <i>The new kiosk highlighted things to do at Fort Monroe. Piscataway Park is located across the river from Mount Vernon.</i>



	<p>Note: As a federal agency, NPS must use federally recognized place names as listed in the Geographic Names Information System. This is an online searchable database and should be consulted if spelling or punctuation of a place name is questionable. (<a href="http://geonames.usgs.gov">geonames.usgs.gov</a>)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Variant name—often historical or local names or misspellings. If using a variant, show the federally recognized name first and the variant second; the variant must be clearly distinguished as a variant (for example, put the variant name in parentheses or different type size or typeface).</li> <li>2. Historical names. Place names can be used in a historical context; watch out for names that use apostrophes and names that may be one or two words.</li> </ol> <p><i>The Battle of Wilson’s Creek took place along Wilsons Creek. John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry occurred when Harpers Ferry was still part of Virginia.</i></p>
<b>geographic regions</b>	<p>Minimize use of capital letters except for specific regions or popular place names. <i>Northern Neck, Southern Maryland, Eastern Shore but the southern shore of the York River, north of the Richmond fall line</i></p>
<b>hamlet</b>	<p>Avoid when referring to any historic Indian community because it implies diminutive or insignificant. (See village below for alternatives.)</p>
<b>historic</b>	<p>Important, notable, or significant in history; usually refers to famous people, events, or sites. <i>In tow was a barge called a shallop, which was about to make a historic voyage.</i></p> <p>Note: Use the indefinite article “a” because the “h” in history is pronounced. Use “an” with words beginning with “h” that have a vowel sound: <i>The park offers an hour-long program giving a historical overview of the battle.</i></p>
<b>historical</b>	<p>Refers to whatever existed in the past; also refers to anything concerned with history or the study of the past. For example, a historical announcement is about something that happened in the past.</p>
<b>indigenous cultural landscape</b>	<p>Indigenous cultural landscapes comprise the cultural and natural resources that would have supported the historic lifestyles and settlement patterns of an Indian group in its totality, and the places important to contemporary tribes’ connections to their culture and heritage. The term attempts to recognize that American Indian places were not confined to the sites of houses, towns, or settlements, and that their view of one’s “homeland” is transient and holistic rather than fixed in time and compartmentalized into discrete site elements based on use. When referring to the NPS initiative to identify and describe this method of recognizing large landscape areas, capitalize. When referring to indigenous cultural landscapes in general, do not capitalize. Abbreviate with “ICL.”</p>
<b>indigenous people</b>	<p>Preferred terminology on a national/international scale. Collective noun to represent nations, tribes, communities, and nomadic people who are original to a territory before colonization. Originating in and characteristic of a particular region or country</p>



<b>Iroquoian</b>	<p>One of the three linguistic families that dominated in the Chesapeake Bay region at the time of contact (the others were Siouan and Algonquian).</p> <p><i>Iroquoian-speaking groups lived at the head of the Chesapeake Bay, among them the Susquehannock and the Massawomecks.</i></p>
<b>king</b>	<p>Avoid as a synonym for “chief” when referring to American Indian leaders. Never use to refer to Powhatan.</p>
<b>longhouse</b>	<p>One word, no hyphen. What the Europeans called Indian homes because of the elongated shape, usually oval with parallel sides and rounded ends. The Algonquian term is believed to be yihakan, or ya’hacan. Some were more circular than oval, and uses varied (e.g., home, ceremonial use, etc.) If specific type is not known, best to use a generic word, such as “structure.”</p>
<b>matchqueon</b>	<p>A black ore with silvery glitters that the Patawomeck Indians used to make a face paint.</p>
<b>mid-Atlantic</b>	<p>Lowercase mid- when used descriptively; capitalize when referring to a specific defined region.</p> <p><i>The primary language spoken by Indians in the mid-Atlantic area was Algonquian.</i> <i>The Mid-Atlantic office is in Philadelphia.</i></p>
<b>national historic trail, park, national parks, national monument</b>	<p>Lowercase unless part of a proper name.</p> <p><i>The National Trails System includes 11 national scenic trails, 19 national historic trails, more than 1,200 national recreation trails, and six connecting and side trails. Many national parks charge entrance fees.</i> <i>Created by Presidential Proclamation on November 1, 2011, Fort Monroe National Monument is one of the newer additions to the National Park System.</i> <i>The term “park” can be used to refer to any unit in the National Park System.</i> <i>Visit the park’s archeological exhibit at Historic Jamestowne.</i></p>
<b>National Park Service, NPS, National Park System</b>	<p>Not “the Park Service” (to avoid confusing with state and county parks). NPS takes the article “the” if used as a noun. No article if used as an adjective.</p> <p><i>The Chesapeake Conservancy funds projects that are beyond the financial capacity of the NPS. (noun)</i> <i>Parks acquire new acreage in accordance with applicable law and NPS policy. (adjective)</i></p> <p>Capitalize National Park System when used as proper name; lowercase “the system.”</p>
<b>nation</b>	<p>Do not capitalize except when referring to the Nation’s Capital. Avoid using when describing the tributary nations of Powhatan.</p>

<b>Native</b>	<p>In a change from previous style, and in respect to our Indian colleagues, capitalize Native when used to refer to the indigenous population at the time of European contact. <i>The English encountered Native hunters near the river.</i></p> <p>Avoid use of Natives as a noun; it has negative connotations.</p>
<b>Native American</b>	<p>Avoid unless requested by specific tribes or parks. Use American Indian instead. Virginia tribes have lately embraced being referred to as Native American.</p>
<b>New World</b>	<p>Avoid as a synonym for North America. This may have been a “new world” to the English, but not to the indigenous people who were already here.</p>
<b>palisade, stockade</b>	<p>A tall pole and bark wall built around an Indian town for fortification. Not all towns had palisades. Smith mentions Tockwogh and Powhatan towns; archeologists have found evidence of others. Best not to assume there was a palisade.</p>
<b>Pamaunke</b>	<p>An early spelling of Pamunkey, the river and the people.</p>
<b>Pasphegh</b>	<p>Indians in whose territory the Englishmen established the settlement of Jamestown</p>
<b>Piscataway Indians / culture</b>	<p>Use only when referring to Piscataway Indians; avoid using when referring to all of the various tribal nations of Southern Maryland</p>
<b>Pocahontas</b>	<p>An Indian girl and daughter of Powhatan, who lived at Werowocomoco when the English arrived. She later married John Rolfe and traveled to England, where she died. Her personal name was Matoaka. After converting to Christianity, she took the name Rebecca. Use caution when referring to Pocahontas’s age (she was likely born in 1597) and the events of her life. It is important to note that scholarly opinions differ widely on the alleged “rescue” incident at Werowocomoco in 1607. Many Virginia Indians believe that Pocahontas’s role as a child was overemphasized and misunderstood by the English, and that historians frequently overlook or misinterpret her accomplishments as a young adult.</p>
<b>Powhatan</b>	<p>An influential political and spiritual leader who lived at Werowocomoco when the English arrived in 1607. Also the name of the community on the James River in which he was born and of a group of Algonquian-speaking people. (See Wahunsunacock/Wahunsenacawh below.)</p>
<b>pre-Contact</b>	<p>Refers to a time before Europeans first arrived and encountered the indigenous people. Sometimes used with era as in pre-Contact era. <i>Archeologists found pieces of pottery representing the pre-Contact era.</i></p>
<b>princess</b>	<p>Avoid in reference to Pocahontas; none of the Eastern Woodland tribes historically had “princesses.”</p>

<b>Powhatan Indians / culture</b>	Use only when referring to Powhatan Indians, which were the occupants of five towns on both sides of the James River below the falls. Do not refer to Virginia Algonquian-speaking tribes collectively as “Powhatan Indians;” not all of the Virginia Algonquian tribes were tributaries to Powhatan.
<b>powwow</b>	An American Indian ceremony, often involving feasting, singing, and dancing. Also spelled pow-wow or pow wow. Preferred spelling is one word, without hyphen, but use local preference, if known, and be consistent within the document.
<b>regalia</b>	American Indian clothing worn for powwows or ceremonial events. <i>The Indians made cloaks, headdresses, and regalia from the feathers, using fine netting made of twine to hold the feathers in place.</i>
<b>ruler</b>	Avoid in reference to Powhatan; instead use “leader” or “paramount chief.”
<b>salt water; saltwater</b>	Two words if used as a noun; one word if used as an adjective.
<b>scientific names</b>	Latin names of plants and animals (genus and species) are set in italic type. Always capitalize genus names, but never capitalize species names even if they are in a capitalized title. <i>The red-jointed fiddler crab, Uca minax, is one of three species of fiddler crabs found in the Chesapeake Bay region.</i>
<b>shallop</b>	Also referred to as a barge, the shallow-draft vessel that held about 15 Englishmen who rowed or sailed it to explore the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers.
<b>shard, potshard</b>	A piece of broken pottery, especially one found at an archeological site. Preferred over sherd/potsherd. <i>Shards of pottery found at the archeological dig were taken to the conservation lab.</i>
<b>Siouan</b>	One of the three linguistic families that dominated in the Chesapeake Bay region at the time of contact (the others were Iroquoian and Algonquian). Groups living above the Rappahannock River fall line (Monacan and Mannahoac) spoke a dialect distinctly different from Algonquian speakers. It is thought by many scholars to be related to Siouan spoken in the Carolina Piedmont, but there is no record of the language.
<b>Tauxenent</b>	A group of Virginia Indians allied with Powhatan who lived in the vicinity of the Occoquan River. The name Tauxenent was later Anglicized to Doeg or Dogue.
<b>Tsenacomoco, Tidewater region Algonquians</b>	Tsenacomoco is a word thought to mean “densely populated place,” and is used by modern writers to refer to the area now called the Virginia Tidewater. It is unclear exactly what geographical area it meant when it was used by Virginia Algonquians to the early English, Descendant communities of this region are the Rappahannock, Mattaponi, Upper Mattaponi, Pamunkey, Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Nansemond, Patowomeck, Nottoway, and Cheroenhaka Nottoway American Indian Nations.

<b>Tipi, teepee, tepee</b>	This will not apply to CAJO on a regional level since tipis were not used here. Use generic term like “structure” unless the specific type of structure is known. (See longhouse.)
<b>trail, Trail</b>	In contrast to HFC style, do not capitalize “trail” when referring to the subject of the interpretive product. Follow same guideline as for “park,” which is to capitalize only when part of the full name (Harpers Ferry National Historical Park; the park interprets the story of John Brown.) <i>The self-guiding trail starts behind the visitor center.</i> <i>Chesapeake Trail is a shortened name for this Congressionally-designated trail.</i>
<b>tribal name</b>	Use specific tribal name(s) whenever possible, accurate, and appropriate. When referring to a tribal nation as a group by their tribal name, the name should always be singular and the verb form plural <i>The Monacan were recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1989.</i>
<b>tribe</b>	A group of people united by a specified division, ties of descent, and/or community of customs and traditions.
<b>tribute, tributary nation</b>	A gift, or tax, of an agreed upon resource paid to a leader or state, usually in return for security, gratitude, or peace. Tributary nations were the tribes or groups paying the tribute. <i>The Chickahominy were not a tributary nation and remained independent of Powhatan.</i>
<b>village</b>	Avoid using to describe a historic Indian community; better alternative is “town” or “settlement” or “community,” so as not to imply the settlement was primitive or quaint.
<b>Wahunsunacock</b>	Also spelled Wahunsenacawh. Powhatan’s personal/informal name; avoid using it, use “Powhatan” or “paramount chief Powhatan” instead.
<b>war, wars</b>	Avoid when describing periods of intensified English/Indian conflict; better to use “hostilities” or “conflicts.” <i>Smith’s departure from Virginia in 1609 was followed by the “starving time” and increasing conflicts between the colonists and nearby native tribes.</i>
<b>waterfowl</b>	Birds, including ducks and geese, living by rivers, lakes, or other bodies of fresh water. One word; no hyphen
<b>Waterfront, riverfront</b>	Land on the edge of a body of water. One word, no hyphen
<b>watershed</b>	An area of land that drains into a particular river, lake, bay or other body of water. The area can be large (like the Chesapeake) or smaller (like a local creek, stream or river). (See also, Chesapeake Bay watershed.)
<b>water trail</b>	Two words, except in the official name of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network.



<b>webpage, website</b>	One word; lowercase. But: World Wide Web is capitalized.
<b>weir</b>	A net or dam for catching fish
<b>weroansqua</b>	A female leader of an Indian community
<b>werowance</b>	A male chief or leader of an Indian community; a male, hereditary leader of a district or hamlet community
<b>Werowocomoco</b>	A long-standing Indian community that was the principal residence of Powhatan when the English arrived in 1607.
<b>wildlife</b>	Can be singular or plural depending on context, but consider rewriting to avoid plural because it can seem incorrect. <i>See birds and other wildlife foraging in marshes, waterways, and forests.</i>
<b>Woodland Indians</b>	See Eastern Woodland Indians above. The Virginia Indians pre-Contact have been identified by archeologists and anthropologists as Late Woodland Period (CE 900–1600).
<b>yihakan, ya'hacan</b>	Algonquian name for an Indian house.