NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES IN MASSACHUSETTS

“MASSACHUSETTS” IS AN ALGONQUIAN INDIAN WORD, ORIGINATING FROM THE WAMPAHOAG WORD “MASSACHUSET,” WHICH MEANS “BY THE RANGE OF HILLS”

FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBES IN MA TODAY:

1. Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe
   - Gay Head, MA (Martha’s Vineyard) - 477 acres of ancestral lands
   - Traditional arts like beadwork, basket making, & pottery as well as the Wampanoag language is being taught to tribal members

2. Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
   - Mashpee, MA - 150 acres of land in Mashpee and 170 acres of land in Taunton
   - Visit their official site to learn more!

OTHER INDIAN TRIBES, BANDS, AND COMMUNITIES IN MA TODAY:

- Chappaquiddick Tribe of the Wampanoag Indian Nation
  - Andover, MA
- Chappaquiddick Band of Massachuset
  - Pocasset, MA
- Cowasuck Band of the Penacook-Abenaki People
  - Franklin, MA
- Hassanamisco Nipmuc Tribe
  - Grafton, MA

SOME INTERESTING FACTS ON INDIGENOUS TRIBES IN MA:

- Indigenous people have lived in Massachusetts for 12,000 years & the first known inhabitants of Massachusetts were “PaleoIndians”
- Wampum, beads made from white and purple mollusk shells, are created and sold by various Native American tribes today
  - Ockway Bay Wampum is a company “specializing in contemporary wampum jewelry handcrafted and designed by Native artist, Hartman Deetz, of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe”