



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Booker T. Washington NM  
12130 BTW Highway  
Hardy, VA 24065

540-721-2094 phone  
[www.nps.gov/bowa](http://www.nps.gov/bowa)

---

## Booker T. Washington NM News Release

For Immediate Release: March 31, 2015

Contact: Betsy Haynes, 540-721-2094, [Betsy\\_Haynes@nps.gov](mailto:Betsy_Haynes@nps.gov)

### **Booker T. Washington National Monument Joins National Find Your Park Movement *National Park Week 2015* Encourages Everyone To Find Your Park**

Hardy, VA – Booker T. Washington National Monument joins parks, programs and partners across the country to encourage everyone to find their park and share their stories online at [FindYourPark.com](http://FindYourPark.com). Launched yesterday by the [National Park Service](#) and the [National Park Foundation](#), [Find Your Park](#) is a public awareness and education campaign celebrating the milestone centennial anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016 and setting the stage for its second century of service.

Find Your Park invites the public to see that a national park can be more than a place -- it can be a feeling, a state of mind, or a sense of American pride. Beyond vast landscapes, the campaign highlights historical, urban, and cultural parks, as well as the National Park Service programs that protect, preserve and share nature, culture, and history in communities nationwide.

“Find Your Park” is also be the theme for this year’s [National Park Week](#), April 18 – 26. Booker T. Washington National Monument will give you a chance to find your park on April 18 – National Junior Ranger Day. Children ages 6-12 are invited to come out to Booker T. Washington National Monument to compare their lives today to the way life was for Booker T. Washington on a mid-nineteenth century farm. Children will learn about Booker T. Washington and his childhood as an enslaved person and his life accomplishments, once freed. Children participating in this self-guided activity can earn a Junior Ranger badge and a pack of “Civil War to Civil Rights” trading cards upon completion. Parents can pick up the booklets at the visitor center desk and begin working with the child on the various components of the Junior Ranger program. The first part of the program involves

-More-

viewing the movie "Longing to Learn," a movie based on Dr. Washington's autobiography, Up From Slavery.

Children can then take a walk through the park's new interactive exhibits inside the park's visitor center and start work on the scavenger hunt to learn answers to questions such as, "When was Booker T. Washington born? What is a slave? What is Washington's middle name?" Some other activities include a matching game, word searches, and crosswords. The children will work inside and outside to complete the booklet. To allow for completion of all activities, parents should allow for 1.5 hours in the park. A park ranger will be available to check answers in the booklet and the child will be given a junior ranger badge upon completion of the booklet.

The park is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather.

"This is an exciting time at the park" says Superintendent Carla Whitfield, "staff and partners are planning activities for the public to celebrate the National Park Service Centennial at Booker T. Washington National Monument."

Visit [www.NationalParkWeek.org](http://www.NationalParkWeek.org) to learn more about how you can join parks, programs, and partners in celebrating National Park Week across the country.

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

*About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 407 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).*

---

**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.