



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

George Washington Birthplace National Monument  
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## George Washington Birthplace - News Release

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### George Washington Birthplace Celebrates the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Constitution

Join the staff at George Washington Birthplace National Monument on Sunday, September 16 in celebrating the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Constitution was signed on September 17, 1787. As the presiding officer of the Constitutional Convention, George Washington played a crucial role in determining the shape of our government and the country that he fought to establish. With almost fatherly attention, Washington spent the rest of his life nurturing and protecting the integrity of the document that he swore to “preserve, protect and defend” at his Inauguration as the first President of the United States. He declared in his farewell address, “The Constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all.”

Events for the day include a reading of a children’s history book on the Constitution at 12:00 p.m. on the Visitor Center Observation Deck, weather permitting (inside the auditorium if weather does not cooperate).



The Constitution of the United States of America, visitors to the park will be able to sign a copy of the document on September 16<sup>th</sup>

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This will be followed at 2:00 p.m. by a program titled *The Constitution and its Remarkable History* by Park Ranger Phillip Greenwalt, in the Visitor Center Auditorium.

The George Washington Birthplace National Monument 4-H Heritage Club will be demonstrating a variety of Colonial era crafts such as hearth cooking and blacksmithing throughout most of the day.

Children, teenagers, and even adults can test their knowledge of the Constitution by completing an activity packet with trivia, games, and puzzles. Each participant will earn a coveted George Washington Birthplace NM Constitution Day Certificate. There will also be a chance to sign the Constitution with quill pen and ink in the Visitor Center along with other Constitution related exhibits.

George Washington Birthplace National Monument is located on Route 204, 2 miles off of Route 3, 38 miles east of Fredericksburg, VA and 11 miles west of Montross, VA. Additional information about George Washington Birthplace National Monument is available by phone at (804) 224-1732 ext. 227 or on the web at [www.nps.gov/gewa](http://www.nps.gov/gewa). Information is also available on Facebook and Twitter. Admission to George Washington Birthplace National Monument is always free