



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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Living History Showcase Presented by George Washington Birthplace 4-H Heritage Club at Harvest Festival

The tobacco is hung and the crops are almost all gathered; now the real work begins. On Sunday, September 15 George Washington Birthplace will be full of the activities typical of a 1732 plantation getting ready for winter during its annual Harvest Festival. The event is being co-hosted by the George Washington Birthplace National Monument 4-H Heritage Club and will be held from 10-4. Costumed demonstrations will include blacksmithing, hearth cooking, spinning and weaving. Flax to make linen is the last remaining crop, and it will be harvested during the event.



The 4-H club was established in the spring of 2012 by the National Park Service. The purpose of the club is to learn and share 18th century crafts and lifestyles. "We have about 40 members aged 9-17 and over a dozen leaders," said club founder Park Ranger Dick Lahey. "We have room for more people to join us," he added.

The slogan of 4-H is *Learning by Doing*, and the staff of George Washington Birthplace National Monument feel that a group of enthusiastic **doers** is a great way to reinvigorate the popular living history programs that were common to the park 25 years ago. "The types of demonstration that these skilled and personable young people can do is limited only by their creativity and dedication," said acting Superintendent

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

John Storke.

For information on how to become a leader for or a member of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument 4-H Heritage Club, contact Park Ranger Dick Lahey at (804) 224-1732, extension 235 or richard_lahey@nps.gov. Membership information and applications will be available during the event on September 15.



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. Admission to the park is always free. Additional information about George Washington Birthplace National Monument is available by phone at (804) 224-1732 or on the web at www.nps.gov/gewa or on Facebook or Twitter.

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