



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Harry S Truman  
National Historic Site

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## Harry S Truman NHS News Release

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For Immediate Release  
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### **National Park Service Announces Temporary Closure of the Truman Home**

INDEPENDENCE, MO--The Truman Home, centerpiece of Harry S Truman National Historic Site, will be closed to public tours beginning Monday, August 3, 2009. The closure is expected to last through spring of 2010.

New heating, ventilation, and cooling (HVAC) and fire suppression systems will be installed in the historic home and plaster will be repaired and stabilized. Historic wallpaper is currently being removed from the dining room and an upstairs bedroom and will be cleaned, repaired, and reinstalled at the end of the project.

The entire construction and conservation project is part of the National Park Service (NPS) Centennial Initiative, introduced in May 2007 by the Secretary of the Interior. The initiative is a 9-year plan to improve facilities and services in the NPS for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the agency in 2016. One of the main goals of the initiative is stewardship of natural and cultural resources in our national parks, including rehabilitation, restoration, and maintenance of treasured cultural resources such as the Truman Home.

The Harry S Truman National Historic Site Visitor Center at 223 N. Main Street in Independence will remain open during the closure period. Visitors may view an orientation film about Harry Truman and his life in Independence; see exhibits featuring Truman family treasures; and view photos of the inside of the Truman Home and the ongoing conservation work. NPS staff will be available to answer questions. Walking tours of the Harry S Truman National Historic Landmark District will be offered on selected days. Please inquire at the information desk about other activities which may be available during your visit. The visitor center is open daily, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

During the construction project at the Truman Home, the Truman Farm Home in Grandview, Mo., currently open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, will be open daily for public tours beginning Monday, August 3. Tickets are offered on a first-come, first-served basis and may sell out by early afternoon. They may be purchased on the day of the tour at the Farm Home. The cost is \$4.00 for adults; children 15 and under are free. The Farm Home will close for the winter on Monday, October 12.

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



In addition to ranger-led tours of the Truman Farm Home and the National Historic Landmark District, the NPS offers three cell phone tours which provide visitors with another option to learn more about Harry Truman, both as an individual and as a president. *The Truman Farm* takes visitors around the grounds of the family farm in Grandview; *Around the Corner from the Truman Home* gives visitors the chance to see several structures important to Truman throughout his private life; and *The Political Education of Harry Truman* takes visitors past several buildings that were significant in Truman's early political years. To access the tours, visitors may call (585) 672-2611 from their cell phones. The calls are free, except for air time on your cell phone. Visitors using the program are also invited to leave comments about the tour with their cell phone. Free maps of the cell phone tours are available at the visitor center and are downloadable from the park website.

The mission of Harry S Truman National Historic Site is to interpret the broad life experience of President Truman encompassed in the NPS resources in Independence and Grandview and to preserve those resources which tell his life story. The park seeks to educate present and future generations about Truman, his role as a citizen, and his influence on history. For further information, please call the visitor center at (816) 254-9929 or visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/hstr](http://www.nps.gov/hstr).

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