

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Manhattan Project National Historical Park
Oak Ridge, Tennessee



October 2018

Manhattan Project History in October

- In October of 1942 DuPont is put in charge of the plutonium production project by General Leslie Groves.
- During a visit to the Chicago Metallurgical Lab on October 5, 1942 General Groves orders key engineering decisions for plutonium production be made in 5 days. These decisions had been under debate for months.
- Theoretical physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer was appointed to coordinate the scientific research of the project at Site Y on October 19, 1942.
- The first Alpha racetrack, which were arrangements of huge electromagnets containing a number of calutrons in the magnets' gaps, was completed in October 1943.
- Concrete pouring for the K-25 plant began on October 21, 1943.

This Month's Highlighted Curatorial Item from the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge's Collection is a Ration Booklet.

The US Office of Price Administration established a system of rationing that would distribute items that were in short supply. Every American including infants were issued a series of ration books during the war. Ration books contained removable stamps good for certain items, like gas, sugar, meat, cooking oil, and canned goods. A person couldn't buy a item without also giving the grocer the right ration stamp. Once a person's ration stamps were used up for a month, they couldn't buy any more of that item. This meant planning meals carefully and not wasting food.



Join the Wheat Homecoming on Sunday, October 7.

Residents of the former Wheat Community gather once a year in George Jones Memorial Baptist Church. Located at the intersection of Highway 58 and Blair Road near the K-25 site, the church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. All are invited to the event which begins 11 am (ET).

Hike With A Ranger on Saturday, October 13

along Cedar Hill Greenway. The 2.5 mile loop hike begins at Cedar Hill Park off Moylan Lane at 10 am (ET). Rangers will discuss school systems, shopping centers, and housing in the Clinton Engineer Works.

Bike With A Ranger on Saturday, October 27

along the Melton Lake Greenway. The program will begin at Elza Gate Park right off Oak Ridge Turnpike at 10 (ET) and along the ride rangers will discuss many aspects of life in Oak Ridge during WWII.

The American Museum of Science & Energy Opens This Month and Showcases an Exhibition on Tennessee Valley Authority's Role in World War II and the Manhattan Project. AMSE is now located at 115 Main Street East in Oak Ridge and opens to the public on October 1..



Linden Elementary School 4th Graders
Joined the "Every Kid in a Park"
Program Last Month.

**Empowering
the People &
Powering
the Project**

presented in
partnership with



Park Visitor Center Desk
at the
Children's Museum of Oak Ridge
461 W. Outer Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

(865) 482-1942

or visit us at:

www.nps.gov/mapr

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