



Manhattan Project History in September

- In September, 1933 Leo Szilard predicts the idea of using a chain reaction of neutron collisions to release energy. This idea of using atomic nuclei to release energy predates the discovery of fission by more than six years.
- Enrico Fermi and his team begin constructing an experimental pile of 30 tons of graphite and 8 tons of uranium oxide in Manhattan, NY in September, 1941. These early experiments indicated that purer materials were needed.
- On September 13, 1942 recommendations of building a pilot plant of cyclotrons to separate uranium isotopes in are made by the S-1 Executive Committee.
- Col. Leslie Groves is notified on September 17, 1942 that he will take command of the Manhattan Engineer District.
- Col. Leslie Groves purchases 1250 tons of Belgian Congo uranium ore on September 18, 1942.
- Site X along the Clinch River was selected as the pilot plant on September 19 1942 by Col. Leslie Groves.

September 22 Marks the 1st Day of Fall, Join Us in Celebrating the Changing of Seasons with a Bike Ride Down Melton Lake Greenway.

We'll begin at 10 am (ET) at Elza Gate Park, former entry point to the secret city, and continue 5 miles to the former location of Edgemoor Gate. Elza Gate Park is located at 101 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge.

Celebrate National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 29

and help clean up with the National Park Service, TVA and Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning for an annual cleanup at Worthington Cemetery. The cleanup is an ongoing effort to eradicate wisteria from Worthington Cemetery, and privet and other invasive exotics from the Ecological Study Area on Melton Hill Reservoir in Oak Ridge at Elza Gate Park. The work session will begin at 9 am (ET) and end around noon with a pizza lunch provided by the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning.



This Month's Highlighted Curatorial Item from the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge's Collection is a B-2 Unit, C-Rations.

C-Rations are individual canned and prepackaged wet rations that were issued when fresh food (A-Rations) and packaged unprepared food (B-Rations) were available. They were first developed in 1938 and field tested in 1940. Each daily ration contained six 12 ounce cans; three M-units, and three B-2 units. B-2 units containing crackers, three sugar tablets, jam preserves, cocoa and other beverage packets. The production of all Type C-Rations ended in 1958 but were continued to be supplied to soldiers in Korea and Vietnam.



During WWII Elza was the site of one of the security gates on the borders of the then-closed city of Oak Ridge.

Stop By Our Booth at the HoLa Hora Latina Festival in Downtown Knoxville Market Square on Sunday, September 30.

Join us at HoLa Hora Latina's signature event highlights the diversity of the Hispanic culture. The event will feature a rich mix of music, dance, food, arts, crafts, heritage tables, a Parade of Nations and children's activities.

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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