George Washington's Birthday

George Washington's Birthday is celebrated as a federal holiday on the third Monday in February. It is one of eleven permanent holidays established by Congress.

Federal holidays apply only to the federal government and the District of Columbia; Congress has never declared a national holiday binding in all states and each state decides its own legal holidays.

George Washington was born in Virginia on February 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and all its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar which moved Washington's birthday a year and 11 days to February 22, 1732.

Americans celebrated Washington's Birthday long before Congress declared it a federal holiday. The centennial of his birth prompted festivities nationally and Congress established a Joint Committee to arrange for the occasion.

At the recommendation of the Committee, chaired by Henry Clay of the Senate and Philemon Thomas of the House, Congress adjourned on February 22, 1832 out of respect for Washington's memory and in commemoration of his birth.

Prompted by a memorial from the mayor and other citizens of Philadelphia, the House and Senate commemorated the 130th Anniversary of Washington's birth by reading aloud his Farewell Address. More...

- “Presidents are selected, not elected.”
  — Franklin D. Roosevelt
- “It’s not doing what is right that’s hard for a President. It’s knowing what is right.”
  — Lyndon Johnson
- “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”
  — John Quincy Adams
- “I walk slowly, but I never walk backward.”
  — Abraham Lincoln
- “In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle stand like a rock.”
  — Thomas Jefferson
- “Believe you can, and you’re half way there.”
  — Theodore Roosevelt
Pamphlets and Publications

Intersting Websites

Abraham Lincoln: a Resource Guide
Abraham Lincoln: Portraits of an Elusive Icon
American Presidents
American Presidency Project
George Washington’s Birthplace
George Washington’s Mount Vernon
Mystery
Meet Amazing Americans: U.S. Presidents
Photo Gallery: Celebrating President’s Day
POTUS
President’s Day

Articles:


The Executive Branch: Powers of the Presidency


Washington's Birthday Holiday Honors First President

Rising by Falling: George Washington

Resources for Kids

**Book Flix**
- Connally, John Bowden, Jr. (1917-1993)
- Jefferson Davis (1808-1889)
- Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)
- Johnson, Lyndon B.
- Kennedy, John Fitzgerald
- Nixon, Richard Milhous
- George Walker Bush
- Barack Obama

**Freedom Flix**

Poems by Presidents:
- My Childhood Home I See Again by Abraham Lincoln
- Underground, by Barack Obama

Plays:
- Abraham Lincoln's Team of Rivals
- The President Has Been Shot!

Speeches by Presidents:
- Lincoln's 1st Inaugural Address, March 1861
- Lincoln's 2nd Inaugural Address, March 1865
The American Library

Books & DVDs available at the American Libraries in India

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