



CIVICS IN REAL LIFE

Patriot Day & National Day of Service and Remembrance

Civics is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and how “We the People” interact with the government and each other. Let’s help each other expand our civic literacy.

On [September 11, 2001](#), the United States suffered one of the worst tragedies in its history. Thousands were killed when [al-Qaeda](#) terrorists flew hijacked airplanes into the Pentagon and New York City’s [World Trade Center](#), while forty-three died when hijacked Flight 93 crashed in a Somerset County, Pennsylvania field when hostages attempted to regain control of the plane. It was a horrific tragedy and led to the U.S. [invasion](#) of Afghanistan, where al-Qaeda trained for terror.

To honor those who gave their lives, we now recognize September 11th as [Patriot Day](#) and a [National Day of Remembrance and Service](#).

During this anniversary, we are encouraged to embrace our civic responsibilities and contribute to the common good of our neighborhoods and communities.

Volunteering in the community is one important way in which people can strengthen the common good and our common bonds as participants in



our civic community. Volunteering can mean giving our time to work at a homeless shelter, tutor children, or even something as simple as mowing a neighbor’s yard. We can also contribute to the common good through good deeds and [random acts of kindness](#). When we do these things, we work to improve our communities and remember those who have given so much to this nation.

Patriot Day and a National Day of Service and Remembrance is an opportunity to come together as neighbors, friends, family, and citizens. On this day, we pause and reflect on the importance of sacrifice, our shared connections and how we can, ultimately, make our communities a better place for all.

To Think and To Do: What are some of the ways in which you can volunteer in your community or even from your own home? Is there a good deed you can perform? Identify a volunteer opportunity or [find a good deed](#) that interests you and find ways in which you can take part in Patriot Day/National Day of Service and Remembrance!

Learn MORE about 9/11 and engaged citizenship.

Free registration may be required.

- [The 9/11 Memorial and Museum](#), from 9/11 Memorial and Museum
- [A Guide to Honoring 9/11 in Your Community](#), from 9/11 Memorial and Museum
- [Citizenship Obligations and Responsibilities](#), from Civics360



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