



2025 CIVIC COMMITMENTS

#CIVICARKANSAS

Welcome to our Civic Arkansas 2025 Civic Commitments Challenge Checklist! This checklist has enjoyable, engaging activities you can participate in throughout the year, inspired by national months and special days. The goal is for Arkansans to become more civically engaged. We would love for you to dedicate yourself to one activity each month and share your participation with us. You can share your involvement on our Civic Arkansas page or post on social media using #CivicArkansas.

For a more detailed guide with more how-to and resource information visit our Civic Arkansas page to download a pdf Civic Commitments Guide.

We look forward to seeing your engagement! For any questions, reach out to Alyssa Ghaleb at aghaleb@rockefellerinstitute.org.



The Winthrop Rockefeller Institute is a nonprofit conference and retreat center whose mission is to continue Winthrop Rockefeller's collaborative approach to creating transformational change.

We engage our resources and Winthrop Rockefeller's values to convene purposeful gatherings on his historic cattle farm. We do this work by employing the Rockefeller Ethic, which represents the belief that diversity of opinion, engaging in respectful dialogue, and practicing collaborative problem solving combine to create transformational change.

Our trained staff are available to assist groups with meeting design and facilitation, and we offer a variety of professional development workshops to provide unique learning and team building opportunities. The productive energy of our mountaintop location coupled with the highest levels of hospitality ensure all who come here are able to do their best work.



JANUARY

ARKANSAS SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

- Appreciation and support for school board members**
Write a letter of appreciation to support your local school board members
- Attend a local school board meeting**
Invite a friend to engage and learn about educational issues in your community

NATIONAL DAY OF DIALOGUE

Post election, if you are interested in pursuing civil dialogue for yourself or your community here are three great resources to consider:

- Beyond Civility workshop at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute**
- Braver Angels**
- Renew America**

ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Explore the Arkansas State Legislature, find an issue that is important to you, and track a bill.**
- Search for your state legislators**
- Review the calendar for the Arkansas General Assembly**

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CIVIC ARKANSAS SURVEY

- Our **Civic Arkansas Survey** seeks to understand more about the civic activities that you engage with. This survey takes approximately 10 minutes, and each response will be used to help inform our Civic Arkansas initiatives. All responses are anonymous and will be seen by Programs staff at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute.



FEBRUARY

CIVIC SPACES

- Grab a meal or cup of coffee at a local business
- Attend a local sports event (e.g. Razorback game or Travelers). Observe who you see, what you overhear people talking about, where the crowds are gravitating to, etc.
- Walk in a park or commercial area to notice details, people, and services often overlooked from a car.
- Use public transit to connect with overlooked people and activities through observation and conversation
- Review the ***Socially Connected Communities: Solutions for Social Isolation*** report and action guide
- Invite a friend and visit Arkansas museums, historic sites, or tourist attractions.

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MARCH

NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

- Write a letter to show your appreciation for your local social workers
- Participate in the National Association of Social Workers theme for 2025

ARKANSAS LOCAL CIVICS BEE

- Attend and support your local Arkansas Civics Bee
- If you cannot attend, share and spread the news on your social media.

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APRIL

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

- Volunteer for a local cause
- April 25-27: Global Youth Service Day with the Clinton Presidential Center

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 6-12

- Check your local library's website to engage with their National Library Week activities
- Visit your local library, learn more about the resources/programs available, and check out a book along the way.
- Volunteer at your local library

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MAY

CIVIC SEASON

- Participate in the Civic Arkansas Democracy Reading Challenge from the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute
- Have coffee with a city council member in your community

ARKANSAS STATE CIVICS BEE

- May 14, 2025: Attend and support the Arkansas State Civics Bee

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JUNE

CIVIC SEASON

- Participate in the Civic Arkansas Democracy Reading Challenge from the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute
- Visit your city's website to learn more about upcoming local meetings and learn how they impact you
- After exploring your city's website, invite a friend and attend a local meeting.

MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL

- Learn more about your local Mayor's Youth Council
- If interested in starting one, review a Mayor's Youth Council guide.

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JULY

CIVIC SEASON

- Participate in the Civic Arkansas Democracy Reading Challenge from the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute
- Attend a Fourth of July celebration

NATIONAL PARK AND RECREATION MONTH

- Visit a state park, grab an Arkansas State Parks Passport, and let your explorations begin.
- Invite a friend to explore Arkansas State Parks in your area
- Participate in a community cleanup at a local park or recreation area

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AUGUST

CIVIC HEALTH MONTH

- Celebrate Civic Health Month by promoting voter registration in your community

CITY HALL SELFIE DAY AUGUST 12

- Visit your local city hall, take a selfie, and post with the hashtags #CivicArkansas and #CityHallSelfie!

WATER MONTH

- Learn where your water source is and book a tour of your local water treatment facility
- Water Conservation Challenge: Track your water use and learn ways to reduce consumption.
- Reach out to local gardening groups or experts for information on drought-resistant landscaping, efficient irrigation methods, or native plants that require less water.

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SEPTEMBER

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH:

- Visit the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management's Citizen Portal
- Take a CPR and first aid class
- Download the Red Cross Emergency App

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY: SEPTEMBER 16

- Be prepared and informed to vote in the November election by visiting the Arkansas Secretary of State's website to check your voter registration status and location. The voter registration deadline is in October.

PARK(ING) DAY:

- Join Park(ing) Day by repurposing parking spaces to be interactive and engaging spaces for public use
- If in the Central Arkansas area, check out Our Little Rock on social media to learn about how they are celebrating Park(ing) Day.

CONSTITUTION AND CITIZENSHIP DAY SEPTEMBER 17

- Visit the National Constitution Center's Interactive Constitution, test your knowledge by taking a Constitution quiz, and share your results.

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OCTOBER

ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

- Attend a local arts event, theatre performance, or cultural event and invite friends/family to join.
- Participate in local festivities like the Hillcrest HarvestFest in Little Rock

PREP FOR NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

- Be prepared and informed to vote in the November elections by visiting the Arkansas Secretary of State's website to check your voter registration status and location

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NOVEMBER

VOTE!

- Check the Arkansas Secretary of State’s website for voter information**
 - *View Sample Ballot*
 - *Find your polling place*
- Be an informed voter and research the candidates and ballot measures**
Review the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Research and Extension voter guide
- Post a photo with your “I Voted!” sticker and share using #CivicArkansas**
- Volunteer to hold a sign or work at the polls on Election Day**
- Have a post-election civil discussion with family or friends to discuss the importance of civic participation, the voting process, and the outcomes and implications for your community.**

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DECEMBER

CROSS-GENERATIONAL CONNECTIONS

- Visit Assisted Residential Living Communities for the Holidays
Plan a visit to an Assisted Living Community in your area to learn more about the benefits and services they provide
Create a holiday card to share with the residents
Volunteer at an Assisted Residential Living Community
- Check with your local senior center and ask how you can support their programs, such as Meals on Wheels.
- Learn more about Arkansas's AARP

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CONNECT WITH US

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BE SOCIAL

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For more details on
monthly civic activities,
scan this QR code or visit
wrinst.org/commitments.

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