

Colonial Williamsburg

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
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Home Depot Foundation Funds Free Admission for Military Memorial Day Weekend

*Honoring Service to America Ticket Provides Free Admission to Active duty Military,
Veterans, Reservists, Retirees and their Dependents May 26-29*



WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (May 18, 2017) – Colonial Williamsburg honors service to America this Memorial Day weekend with free admission tickets for active duty military, reservists, retirees, veterans, National Guard members and their immediate dependents. The Honoring Service program is made possible by a \$100,000 grant from the Home Depot Foundation.

The Honoring Service to America ticket offers all the benefits of a regular admission ticket, including admission to more than 40 sites and Historic Trades shops and the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. The program has distributed 21,400 tickets since 2014 and supports the Home Depot Foundation’s philanthropic mission to improve the homes and lives of service members, veterans and their families.

“We are pleased to continue our partnership with Colonial Williamsburg through the Honoring Service to America program,” said John E. Ellington, director of finance and grants administration for the Home Depot Foundation. “Together, we can continue to provide this special opportunity for military and their families to learn and honor the history of a nation for which they sacrifice so much.”

“Colonial Williamsburg is proud to honor military families and their service year-round,” said Elisabeth Reiss, wife of Colonial Williamsburg President and CEO Mitchell B. Reiss, and leader of the Foundation’s military outreach efforts. “We are so appreciative of the Home Depot Foundation’s commitment to the Honoring Service to America program, and for making it possible to offer complimentary admission to our military families on such an important weekend for our nation.”

The service member need not be present, and free Honoring Service to America tickets will be provided to dependent family members of currently deployed troops with appropriate identification. Military veterans who separated before retirement can bring a copy of their honorable discharge paperwork, form DD 214, as identification of service. These weekend-long admission tickets are available onsite at the Visitor Center, Lumber House ticket office and the Merchant's Square ticket window.

A Memorial Day commemorative service begins at 10 a.m. on May 29 to honor fallen service members. A procession with the Fifes and Drums and Military Programs will begin at the Governor's Palace and proceed to Bruton Parish Church, ending at the Capitol. Wreaths will be placed, prayers given, and volleys fired to honor soldiers of the American Revolution, the Civil War and other conflicts. This service is free and open to the public.

For more information about "Honoring Service to America" tickets and program, telephone 855-296-6627 or visit www.colonialwilliamsburg.com. More information is also available by following Colonial Williamsburg on [Facebook](#) and [@colonialwmsburg](#) on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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About Colonial Williamsburg

Colonial Williamsburg operates the world's largest living history museum, preserving Virginia's 18th-century capital as a fully functioning city. Fun, engaging experiences transport guests back in time and highlight the relevance of America's founding era to contemporary life. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 500 restored or reconstructed buildings, historic trade shops, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr. and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center managed by Trilogy Spa, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.

About Giving back at The Home Depot

Since the first The Home Depot store opened in 1979, giving back has been a core value for the Company and a passion for its associates. Today, The Home Depot, in partnership with The Home Depot Foundation, focuses its philanthropic efforts on improving the homes and lives of U.S. military veterans and their families and aiding communities affected by natural disasters. Through Team Depot, the Company's associate-led volunteer force, thousands of associates dedicate their time and talents to these efforts in the communities where they live and work.

Since 2011, The Home Depot Foundation has invested more than \$138 million to veteran causes, and along with the help of Team Depot volunteers, has transformed more than 25,000 homes for veterans. To learn more and see Team Depot in action, visit www.homedepot.com/teamdepot.

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