

Historic Huntley | Huntley Meadows Park

Citizenship in the Nation

The program lasts 4 hours.

Please bring to class:

- Pework (if Scouts are unable to finish prework, they will receive partial signatures on their blue card and must come back for final signatures when the work is completed.) **All prework is due within a month after the program date.**
- Blue card, pencil, snack/drink, and Scout workbook.

Merit Badge Prerequisites

It is strongly encouraged to complete all pre-work before the program date. The counselor and scouts will go over completed work during the merit badge program. If the scout has not completed all (or at least most) of his pre-work it could greatly inhibit the scout's experience.

- 1) Do ONE of the following:
 - a. Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Tell your counselor what you learned about the capitol, its function, and the history.
 - b. Tour a federal facility. Explain to your counselor what you saw there and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves this nation.
 - c. Choose a national monument that interests you. Using books, brochures, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and other resources, find out more about the monument. Tell your counselor what you learned, and explain why the monument is important to this country's citizens.
- 2) Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Discuss the national issues you learned about with your counselor. *Choose one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family.*
- 3) Discuss each of the following documents with your counselor. Research each one of these documents paying close attention to its history and purpose. Also note the author (or authors) of each document except in the case of the amendments.
 - a. Declaration of Independence
 - b. Preamble to the Constitution
 - c. The Constitution
 - d. Bill of Rights
 - e. Amendments to the Constitution
- 4) With your counselor's approval, choose a speech of national historical importance. Find out about the author, and tell your counselor about the person who gave the speech. Explain the importance of the speech at the time it was given, and tell how it applies to American citizens today. *Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell your counselor why.*

- 5) Name your two senators and the member of Congress from your congressional district. Write a letter about a national issue and send it to one of these elected officials, sharing your view with him or her. *Show your letter and any response you receive to your counselor.*

For requirement approval or if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Geoffrey W. Cohrs

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