



2026 Civic Arkansas CIVIC COMMITMENT CHALLENGE

Welcome to our Civic Arkansas 2026 Civic Commitments Challenge! This 12-month initiative provides opportunities for civic engagement in your community, aligned with national months and special days throughout the year. We hope that these activities will lead you to take action and become a more engaged citizen.

To complete the challenge, you will need to participate in one of the activities each month and share your participation with us. You can share by posting on social media and using #CivicArkansas, or by filling out the online form at wrinst.org/commitments.

JANUARY

- January 5, National Day of Dialogue: Host a civil dialogue in your community with either your friends, family, or neighbors

Arkansas School Board Recognition Month

- Write a letter of appreciation to support your local school board members
- Attend a local school board meeting

FEBRUARY

- Engage with civic spaces in your community by going for a walk at your local park, visiting a museum, or visiting a historical site around the state

MARCH

- Visit your city's website to learn more about upcoming local meetings and how they impact you
- March 10-14, Civic Learning Week: Connect with a local civics organization about how you can be involved and bring an opportunity to students in your area

National Social Work Month

- Write a letter to show your appreciation for social workers and their contributions

APRIL

National Volunteer Month

- Volunteer for a local cause
- April 19-25, National Library Week: Visit your local library to volunteer or simply check out a book

MAY

Beginning of Civic Season

- Participate in our annual Civic Arkansas Democracy Reading Challenge
- Have coffee with one of your city council members
- Learn more about your local Mayor's Youth Council

JUNE

- Participate in our annual Civic Arkansas Democracy Reading Challenge
- In honor of Juneteenth, attend and support a Juneteenth celebration near you
- Attend and support the Arkansas State Civics Bee Championship to support students from across the state in demonstrating their passion and knowledge for civics

JULY

- Participate in our annual Civic Arkansas Democracy Reading Challenge
- July 4, Independence Day: Attend a celebration

National Park and Recreation Month

- Visit a state park near you and pick up an Arkansas State Parks Passport
- Invite a friend to explore and visit a state park in your area

AUGUST

- August 12, City Hall Selfie Day: Visit your city hall, take a selfie, and post with the hashtags #CityHallSelfie #CivicArkansas
- Learn more about the connection between civic engagement and health

National Water Quality Month

- Track and reduce your water usage for the month

SEPTEMBER

- September 16, National Voter Registration Day: Check your voter registration status and location
- September 17, Constitution and Citizenship Day: Visit the National Constitution Center's website to review its learning resources

Hunger Action Month

- Wear Orange, the symbolic color for Hunger Action Month
- Connect with your local foodbank to volunteer, donate, and/or engage on social media

National Preparedness Month

- Host a neighborhood preparedness night to discuss disaster readiness

OCTOBER

- October 5-11, National Newspaper Week: Support your local newspaper by subscribing to and sharing its content

Arts and Humanities Month

- Support local artists or a humanities project that tells your community's story
- Attend a local arts event, theater performances, or cultural event

Prep for November Elections

- Check your voter registration status; if not registered, register to vote!

NOVEMBER

Elections

- Prepare to vote by viewing a sample ballot, locating your polling place, and reviewing the UA Division of Agriculture Research and Extension's Ballot Issues Voter Guide
- Vote!

DECEMBER

- December 15, Bill of Rights Day: Learn the history of the Bill of Rights
- Visit your local senior center to connect and support their programming, or simply bring a holiday card for the members