July 21, 2025

Let's Celebrate America!

On July 4, 2026, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past.

Operation Wildfire begins its journey of celebration with a review of the documents that shaped our great nation.

The Foundational Documents

Several documents have profoundly shaped the United States. The Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights are considered the most significant, collectively known as the Charters of Freedom. These documents, along with others like the Articles of Confederation and the Federalist Papers, have established the framework for American governance and individual liberties. Perhaps you'd like to begin your celebration with a review of each of these key documents?

Declaration of Independence (1776)

This document declared the thirteen American colonies independent from Great Britain, outlining the philosophical basis for self-government and individual rights. To read the Declaration, visit this link: https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript

Articles of Confederation (1781)

The first constitution of the United States, it established a weak central government and was later replaced by the U.S. Constitution. To read the Articles of Confederation, visit this link: https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/articles-of-confederation

U.S. Constitution (1787)

The supreme law of the land, it established the structure and function of the federal government, including its three branches and a system of checks and balances. To read the Constitution, visit this link: https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript

Bill of Rights (1791)

The first ten amendments to the Constitution guarantee fundamental rights and freedoms to citizens. To read the Bill of Rights, visit this link: https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights-transcript

Federalist Papers (1787-1788)

This series of essays, written by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay and James Madison, argues for the ratification of the Constitution and provides insights into the Framers' intentions. To read the Federalist Papers, visit https://guides.loc.gov/federalist-papers/full-text

These documents, along with other important historical texts, have played a crucial role in shaping American democracy and continue to be relevant today.

Operation Wildfire will continue to provide information on pivotal points in history as we count down to our 250th birthday.

Happy Reading!