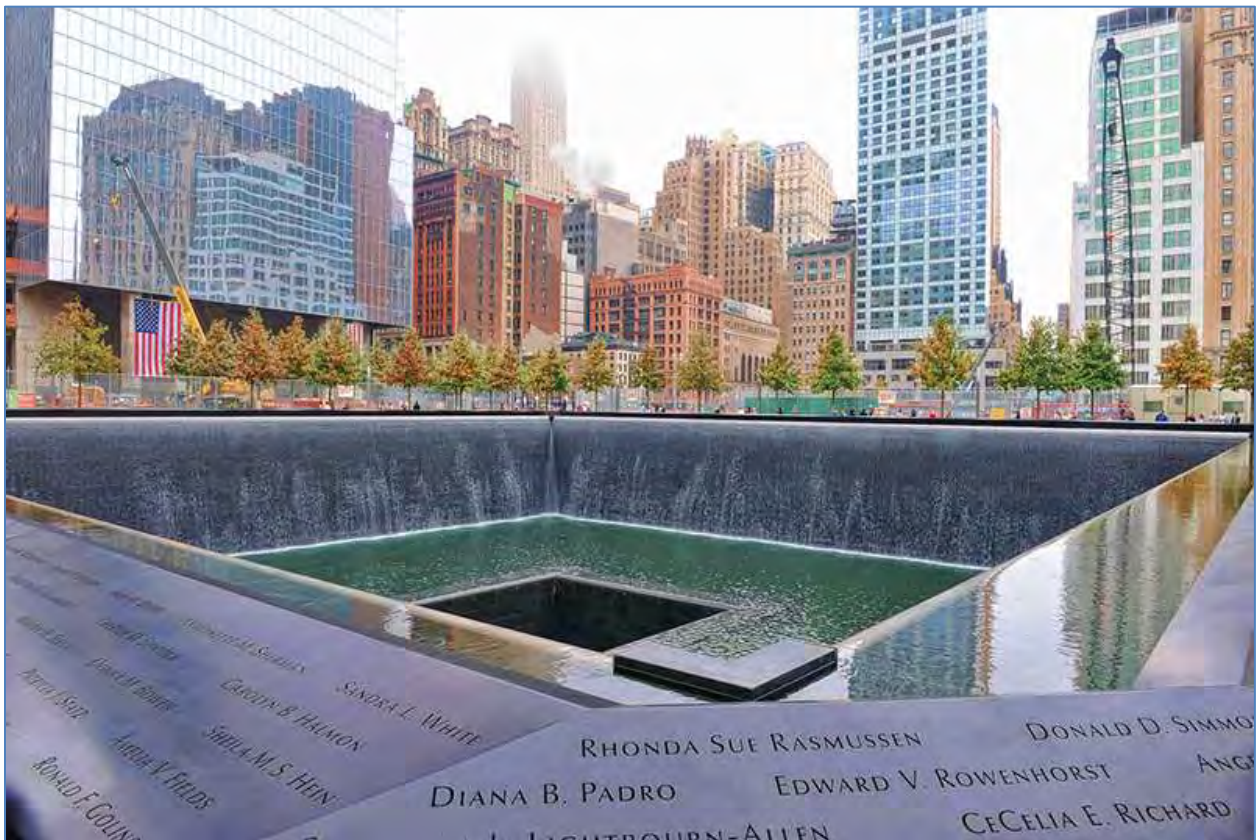


Three Ways to Honor the Victims and Heroes of 9/11

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September 9, 2019



Do you remember what you were doing on September 11, 2001? It's hard to forget that moment two airplanes crashed into the World Trade Center, and another into the Pentagon. As a student, you probably remember seeing the panic of your teacher's face. The rest of you were probably just beginning another workday as your coworkers rushed to turn on the TV and stared mouths agape. The events that followed would forever change our politics and our culture. It has been nearly two decades since the terrorist attacks that left nearly 3,000 Americans dead, 6,000 injured, and 285 million in grief.

This September 11, commemorate the victims and heroes of that fateful day.



Thank Your Firefighters, Police Officers, and EMTs

The New York Fire Department and the New York Police Department responded swiftly and heroically to the attacks on the World Trade Center, working night and day to contain the fires and rescue people from the rubble. Over 400 first responders had lost their lives. At the same time, Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians worked around the clock to provide medical care to whoever was injured.

These are the people we trust to march forward into danger for us to live comfortably and safely. Even if your local fire department was not directly involved, find a way to thank them for their daily service. If you are a teacher, have your students write letters to their local police and fire departments. If you are a parent, work with your children to send in flowers, cards, and cookies. Or, find your own way to say thank you.



Send a Letter or Care Package to a Soldier

The September 11 attacks launched a new era of American politics, including increased involvement in the Middle East, which eventually prompted two wars. There is no proper way to acknowledge the sacrifice of a soldier or their family members, but consider honoring these heroes by sending a letter or a care package. You can send a letter to a current soldier or veteran by using [this guide](#) or send a care package to a troop currently deployed through these resources [here](#) and [here](#).



Participate In the National Day of Service

The National Day of Service and Remembrance, also known as Patriot Day, occurs every year on September 11. Instead of dwelling on the horrific events that happened in 2001, Patriot Day turns the tables to make each subsequent September 11 a day of community service and unity. Check out [this resource](#) for ways to get involved locally.