

*A Lincoln*

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE  
AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME

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## Memorial Day Events at President Lincoln's Cottage

*Free Tours of USSAH National Cemetery and Picnic on Soldiers' Home Grounds*

**Washington, D.C.** – President Lincoln's Cottage, in partnership with the Armed Forces Retirement Home, will host Memorial Day activities on May 28, 2012 from 11:00AM – 3:00PM. Visitors will have the rare opportunity to take a free guided tour of the USSAH National Cemetery (predecessor of Arlington National Cemetery) at 11:30AM and 1:30PM. Wreath laying ceremonies will also take place at the Soldiers' Home at 11:15AM and at the Cemetery at 12:15PM. Tours of the Cottage will be available on the regular schedule from 10:00AM to 3:00PM at the regular price of \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch.

While living at the Cottage on the grounds of the Soldiers' Home, President Lincoln witnessed 30-40 burials per day at the cemetery adjacent to his summer home. He often walked among the graves of the cemetery and once recalled a poem by William Collins while doing so - "How sleep the brave, who sink to rest / By all their country's wishes blest!" The cemetery and the Soldiers' Home had a profound impact on Lincoln and his decisions during the Civil War. Today, the properties serve as a remembrance to those that have given their lives to our country.

Memorial Day attendees may bring lunch and picnic on the south lawn of the Cottage or on the shaded picnic tables behind the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center. Advanced reservations for Cottage Tours are strongly recommended, as they do sell out. Tickets may be purchased on our website: [www.lincolncottage.org/visit/tickets.htm](http://www.lincolncottage.org/visit/tickets.htm)

President Lincoln lived in the Cottage at the Soldiers' Home from June–November of 1862, 1863 and 1864–totaling one quarter of his presidency. He was living here when he drafted the preliminary version of the Emancipation Proclamation and deliberated critical issues of the Civil War. Since the Cottage opened to the public in 2008, tens of thousands of visitors have engaged in conversations on liberty, justice, and equality, through innovative guided tours, forward-thinking exhibits and quality educational programs. Hours of operation: Tours on the hour, 7 days a week. Visitor Center open 9:30am-4:30pm Mon-Sat, 10:30am-4:30pm Sunday. For more information on President Lincoln's Cottage, visit: [www.lincolncottage.org](http://www.lincolncottage.org)

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. For more information visit: [www.PreservationNation.org](http://www.PreservationNation.org).

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