



Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of Governor Ralph S. Northam

November 7, 2018

Dear State Employees,

I am pleased to invite you to join me at the Commonwealth's Veterans Day Ceremony and the Armistice Day Festival on Sunday, November 11 in Richmond's Byrd Park. The Veterans Day Ceremony will be held at the Dogwood Dell Amphitheater at 11 a.m., and the Armistice Day Festival will take place at the Virginia War Memorial Carillon from noon to 2:00 p.m. Both of these events are free to attend.

As a veteran, I am honored to recognize all Virginians who served or are serving in the armed forces. This year is especially significant because we will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. The Commonwealth's Veterans Day Ceremony will begin with a solemn tolling of the Carillon bells 21 times in remembrance of the more than 100,000 Virginians who served in World War I. The Armistice Day Festival will highlight the Virginia War Memorial Carillon – Virginia's World War I Memorial – which is undergoing extensive renovations. The newly restored first floor will be open and filled with historical and interactive exhibits, including student artwork commemorating World War I.

There will be food trucks on site, as well as free parking in the lot adjacent to the Dogwood Dell Amphitheater.

The Virginia WWI and WWII Commemoration Commission, the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, and the Virginia War Memorial are hosting the ceremony and exhibits in partnership with the Virginia Department of General Services, the City of Richmond Department of Parks and Recreation, and other community partners.

Thank you for your support and for your service to the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Ralph S. Northam