



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## THE 9/11 MEMORIAL REOPENS TO VISITORS

*Memorial Reopens with Limited Operations as Recovery Efforts  
Continue after Closing for Sandy*

*Flood Waters have been Removed from 9/11 Memorial Museum Construction Site*

(New York) November 06, 2012 – The National September 11 Memorial has reopened today with limited operations after being closed because of the severe weather Sandy caused. The 9/11 Memorial will temporarily operate under daily hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as recovery efforts continue at the World Trade Center site.

The 9/11 Memorial Preview Site at 20 Vesey St. in lower Manhattan has also reopened with temporary hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The number of visitors who will be able to enter the Memorial will also be temporarily limited as recovery operations continue. The Preview Site and the 9/11 Memorial Visitor Center at 90 West St. were closed after the storm. The Visitor Center will reopen as soon as possible.

"Lower Manhattan is known, the world over, as a place of resilience and energy. Through the heartfelt efforts of the Port Authority, the city, the state and our dedicated staff, we are able to reopen the 9/11 Memorial to visitors. During this time, as we have this limited reopening, our thoughts and prayers are with those who were so devastatingly affected by Sandy," 9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels said. "I would like to thank our supporters as we continue to make a full recovery."

Before the storm, the Memorial took a number of preventive measures, including draining the twin reflecting pools and water harvesting tanks. The Memorial fared well as a result; however, river surges caused extensive flooding in the 9/11 Memorial Museum, which is currently under construction at the World Trade Center.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey led pumping operations that have successfully removed at least seven feet of water from the Museum space, and workers are now focused on removing pockets of water and debris.

The majority of the Museum's collection is safe off site. A few large artifacts placed in the Museum during early phases of construction were exposed to flood waters, and conservators are providing guidance to ensure the utmost care of these artifacts.

"I want to assure our stakeholders that there is a dedicated team of professionals charged with the care of all artifacts and personal objects that have been entrusted to the Museum's custody," 9/11 Memorial Museum Director Alice M.

Greenwald said. "The vast majority of collection materials is safe and was unaffected by the storm. The team is actively assessing the condition of artifacts that were impacted by flooding due to the storm surge, and we will aggressively and expeditiously implement any conservation strategies as needed. We appreciate the public's continued support and look forward, with full confidence, to the opening of this historic museum."

The Port Authority estimated that about 16 million gallons of water flooded the Museum after the storm surged entered its Vehicle Security Center. Recovery operations continue with the help of the city, state and the Port Authority.

**Please refer to the following visitor information as recovery efforts continue:**

- Temporary operating hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until full power is restored to the World Trade Center site. The last visitor will enter the site at 3:30 p.m.
- Previously reserved passes for dates and times affected by closures will be honored during temporary operations.
- Visitors will continue to enter the Memorial at the corner of Albany and Greenwich streets.
- Visitors will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Passes temporarily will not be available online or at the Preview Site.
- All visitors and baggage are subject to security screening as usual.
- For regular updates and more information on reserving passes under normal operations, visit [911memorial.org](http://911memorial.org).

## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM**

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the not-for-profit corporation created to oversee the design, fundraising, programming, and operations of the Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center. The Memorial and Museum are located on eight of the 16 acres of the World Trade Center site. The Memorial was dedicated on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and is now open to the public.

The Memorial remembers and honors the 2,983 people who were killed in the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The design, created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two reflecting pools formed in the footprints of the original Twin Towers and a plaza of trees. The Museum will display monumental artifacts linked to the events of 9/11, while presenting intimate stories of loss, compassion, reckoning, and recovery that are central to telling the story of the 2001 and 1993 attacks and the aftermath. It will communicate key messages that embrace both the specificity and the universal implications of the events of 9/11; document the impact of those events on individual lives, as well as on local, national, and international communities; and explore the continuing significance of these events for our global community.

For more information or to reserve a free visitor pass to the 9/11 Memorial, go to [911memorial.org](http://911memorial.org).

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES**

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