

# Holiday Calendar 2015-2016

## JUNE 2015

- 14, SUNDAY - FLAG DAY: to commemorate the United States flag's adoption.  
17, WEDNESDAY - ISLAMIC HOLIDAY: RAMADAN – Begins a month of fasting.

## JULY 2015

- 4, SATURDAY- JULY FOURTH  
17, FRIDAY - ISLAMIC HOLIDAY: Eid-Ul-Fitr - The feast marking the end of fasting.  
25, 26, SUNDAY – TISHA BA'AV (SATURDAY EVENING) - Fast of the 9th of Av.

## SEPTEMBER 2015

- 7, MONDAY- LABOR DAY – Federal and state agencies closed.  
First day of School:  
August 19th: St. Mary's and Washington Counties; August 20th : Cecil County; August 24th – Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore Co, Caroline, Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, and Somerset Counties; August 25th – Calvert, Kent, Prince George's, and Talbot Counties; August 27th – Harford County; August 31st: Baltimore City, Carroll, Charles, Montgomery, Queen Anne, and Wicomico Counties; September 8th: Worcester County.  
13, 14, 15 - ROSH HASHANAH (SUNDAY EVENING) MONDAY & TUESDAY - (Jewish New Year) Begins the Jewish year 5776.  
16, WEDNESDAY – TZOM GEDALIAH: Commemorates the start of Babylonian exile of the Jewish people (Fast begins 1st morning light).  
22, 23 - YOM KIPPUR (TUESDAY EVENING) WEDNESDAY (Day of Atonement) Most holy of Jewish holidays, devoted to prayer, fasting and repentance.  
27, 28, 29 - SUKKOT (SUNDAY EVENING) MONDAY & TUESDAY (Feast of Tabernacles) - First day of festival of harvest, thanksgiving, and remembrance of the Jewish wandering in the wilderness and living in booths or tabernacles after the exodus from Egypt.

## OCTOBER 2015

- 4, SATURDAY - ISLAMIC HOLIDAY: EID-UL-ADHA (Feast of Sacrifice).  
13, MONDAY - COLUMBUS DAY - Federal and state agencies closed.  
4, 5 - SHEMINI ATZERET (SUNDAY EVENING) MONDAY (Eighth Day of Assembly) - Marks the climax of the Jewish holy season.  
5, 6 - SIMCHAT TORAH (MONDAY EVENING) TUESDAY (Rejoicing in the Law) - Reading of the Torah is completed and begun anew in the synagogue.  
14, WEDNESDAY – ISLAMIC HOLIDAY: AL HIJRA- Islamic New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet Mohammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina.  
16, 17 – FRIDAY & SATURDAY - MARYLAND STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION - Schools closed Friday.  
24, SATURDAY - UNITED NATIONS DAY  
31, SATURDAY - REFORMATION DAY - Observed by Protestant groups to mark the beginning of Protestant Reformation in 1517.

## NOVEMBER 2015

- 1, SUNDAY - ALL SAINTS DAY: Christian holy day of obligation commemorating all saints.  
2, MONDAY – ALL SOULS' DAY: Roman Catholic day of remembrance for friends and loved ones who have passed away.  
11, WEDNESDAY - VETERANS DAY - Federal and state agencies closed.  
16 – 20, - AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK  
This year marks the 88th annual American Education Week.  
26, THURSDAY - THANKSGIVING DAY: Federal and state agencies closed.  
School Closings:  
November 25th-27th: Anne Arundel, Calvert Caroline, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Ann, St. Mary's, Talbot, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; November 26th-27th: Allegany, Baltimore City, Baltimore Co., Garrett, Harford, and Somerset Counties.  
27, FRIDAY - AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY

## DECEMBER 2015

- 8, TUESDAY - FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – Catholic holy day celebrating the privilege of freedom from sin.  
10, THURSDAY - HUMAN RIGHTS DAY - Marks U.N. adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.  
10, THURSDAY - BILL OF RIGHTS DAY - Marks ratification of the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1791.  
6, 7-14 - CHANUKAH (SUNDAY EVENING) (Festival of Lights) - Eight-day festival marking the first recorded battle for religious liberty and rededication of the Temple by the Maccabees.

- 22, TUESDAY - ASARAH B'TEVET (Fast of Tevet-which begins morning light) Commemorates the beginning of the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem (6th Century BCE).  
25, FRIDAY- CHRISTMAS DAY – Federal and state agencies will be closed. WINTER SCHOOL BREAK:

December 24th – January 1st: All City and County Schools are closed and will reopen on Monday, January 4th

- 26, SATURDAY - KWANZAA (First Fruits of the Harvest): African-American holiday that celebrates family, community, and culture. It is celebrated for seven days, December 26th-January 1st.

## JANUARY 2016

- 1, FRIDAY- NEW YEAR'S DAY – Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed.  
18, MONDAY - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. (b. 1929). Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed.  
25, MONDAY - TU BISHVAT – New Year for Trees.

## FEBRUARY 2016

- ALL FEBRUARY - AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH  
12, FRIDAY - LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY (b. February 12, 1809).  
10, WEDNESDAY - ASH WEDNESDAY- Opens Lenten Season.  
16, MONDAY - PRESIDENTS' DAY - Celebrates the birthdays of George Washington (b. 1732) and Abraham Lincoln (b. 1809). Schools closed. Federal and state agencies closed.

## MARCH 2016

- 17, THURSDAY - ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
20, SUNDAY - PALM SUNDAY  
23, WEDNESDAY - TA'ANIT ESTHER (Fast of Esther) – Commemorates the fast of Queen Esther (Fast begins Thursday morning).  
23, 24 - PURIM (WEDNESDAY EVENING) THURSDAY- Jewish day of merry- making, marking defeat of Persian tyrant, Haman.  
24, THURSDAY - HOLY THURSDAY - Christian holy day marking The Last Supper.  
25, FRIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY  
SPRING BREAK:  
March 21-28th: Anne Arundel, Calvert, Frederick, Garrett, and St. Mary's Counties; March 23-28th: Harford, Somerset, Talbot, and Washington Counties; March 24-29th: Carroll and Dorchester Counties; March 25-28th: Allegany, Charles, Montgomery, Queen Ann, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; March 25-29th: Caroline County; March 25-April 1st: Baltimore City, Howard, Kent Counties; March 25-April 4th: Baltimore and Prince George's Counties.  
25, FRIDAY- MARYLAND DAY - Commemorating the arrival of Lord Baltimore's first settlers in Maryland in 1634 (State will observe on Monday, 26th).  
26, SATURDAY - HOLY SATURDAY  
27, SUNDAY - EASTER/EASTERN ORTHODOX EASTER

## APRIL 2016

- 22, 23, 24 - PESACH (FRIDAY EVENING) SATURDAY & SUNDAY - First two days of PESACH (Passover) Jewish festival marking deliverance from slavery in Egypt.  
28, 29, 30 - PESACH (THURSDAY EVENING) FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - Concluding days of PESACH (Passover).

## MAY 2016

- 5, THURSDAY - YOM HASHOAH: Holocaust Remembrance Day – Memorializing the six million martyrs who died in the Holocaust, 1939-1945.  
5, THURSDAY - ASCENSION DAY - Christian holy day marking Jesus' ascension forty days after the Resurrection.  
11, WEDNESDAY - YOM HAZIKARON: Israel's Memorial Day.  
12, TUESDAY - YOM HA'ATZMAUT: Israel Independence Day.  
26, THURSDAY – LAG BAOMER the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer.  
30, MONDAY- MEMORIAL DAY (observed). Schools closed.  
Federal and state agencies closed.

## JUNE 2016

- 5, SUNDAY - YOM YERUSHALAYIM – Anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 Six-Day War.  
14, TUESDAY - FLAG DAY: to commemorate the United States flag's adoption.  
11, 12, 13 - SHAVUOT (SATURDAY EVENING) SUNDAY & MONDAY - Marks giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai.

**BALTIMORE**  
JEWISH  
COUNCIL 



AN AGENCY OF  
**The Associated**  
Inspiring Jewish Community

# Use of Holiday Calendar 2015-2016

This calendar has been prepared and designed primarily to assist teachers and school administrators in planning and scheduling special events and activities such as examinations, assemblies, field trips, graduations and other school-related programs. Federal, state, county, and city government agencies, legislative bodies, and courts, as well as private employers, may also find this calendar helpful.

ALL Jewish holidays are set according to the Hebrew lunar calendar, so that they begin at sundown on the preceding evening

and conclude at sundown on the dates noted. The Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday evening and concludes at sunset on Saturday. During these observances, work is traditionally prohibited. As a result, Jewish individuals may be absent from both school and places of employment.

No person should be penalized for his/her religious observances or beliefs.

## 5-Year Calendar of Major Jewish Holidays

Holiday	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Pesach</b> ( <i>Passover</i> )	April 4, 5 Sat. & Sun.	April 23 & 24 Sat. & Sun.	April 11 & 12 Tues. & Wed.	March 31, 1 Sat. & Sun.	April 20 & 21 Sat. & Sun.
<b>Concluding days of Pesach</b>	April 10, 11 Fri. & Sat.	April 29 & 30 Fri. & Sat.	April 17 & 18 Mon. & Tues.	April 6 & 7 Fri. & Sat.	April 26 & 27 Fri. & Sat.
<b>Shavuot</b> ( <i>Receiving of the Torah</i> )	May 24, 25 Sun. & Mon.	June 12 & 13 Sun. & Mon.	May 31 & 1 Wed. & Thurs.	May 20 & 21 Sun. & Mon.	June 9 & 10 Sun. & Mon.
<b>Rosh Hashanah</b> ( <i>New Year</i> )	Sept. 14, 15 Mon. & Tues.	Oct. 3 & 4 Mon. & Tues.	Sept. 21 & 22 Thurs. & Fri.	Sept. 10 & 11 Mon. & Tues.	Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 Mon. & Tues.
<b>Yom Kippur</b> ( <i>Day of Atonement</i> )	Sept. 23 Wednesday	Oct. 12 Wednesday	Sept. 30 Saturday	Sept. 19 Wednesday	Oct. 9 Wednesday
<b>Sukkot</b> ( <i>Feast of Tabernacles</i> )	Sept. 28, 29 Mon. & Tues.	Oct. 17 & 18 Mon. & Tues.	Oct. 5 & 6 Thurs. & Fri.	Sept. 24 & 25 Mon. & Tues.	Oct. 14 & 15 Mon. & Tues.
<b>Shemini Atzeret</b> ( <i>Eighth Day of Assembly</i> )	Oct. 5 Monday	Oct. 24 Monday	Oct. 12 Thursday	Oct. 1 Monday	Oct. 21 Monday
<b>Simchat Torah</b> ( <i>Rejoicing of the Law</i> )	Oct. 6 Tuesday	Oct. 25 Tuesday	Oct. 13 Friday	Oct. 2 Tuesday	Oct. 22 Tuesday
<b>Tisha B'Av</b> ( <i>Official Day of Mourning</i> )	July 26 Sunday	August 14 Sunday	August 1 Tuesday	July 22 Sunday	August 11 Sunday

### 2015

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