The Road to U.S. Government

Greek Democracy

- Direct
- 500 years B.C.
- adult male citizens only!

House of Burgesses

- 1607, Jamestown
- First elected lawmakers (*in*direct = "Republic")

Common Sense

- 1776, Thomas Paine
- Propaganda pamphlet:
  - freedom from tyranny
  - supported self-government

Magna Carta

- 1215- Limited the power of the king
- led to our 5th Amendment (due process of law)

Mayflower Compact

- 1620, Massachusetts
- first document for self-government in the colonies

2nd Continental Congress 1775

- *Olive Branch Petition* sent 1775
- Declaration of Independence written 1776
- Articles of Confederation (W-E-A-K central gov't)

English Bill of Rights

- 1689: limited the power of gov't
- individual rights guaranteed
- influenced our Bill of Rights

1st Continental Congress 1774

- Response to British oppression
- They threatened King George with a boycott
- a new American spirit was forming