



Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route News December 2010, by Joseph DiBello, Superintendent of the W3R-NHT

The National Park Service, along with all other federal agencies, awaits final action by Congress on the FY 2011 appropriation bill. We are operating under a continuing resolution. The President's FY2011 request provides sufficient funds to maintain visitor services in all areas and enhance services in a few. The FY 2012 budget is being formulated at this time by an Administration determined to put our Nation on sound fiscal footing. Although we are operating under a continuing resolution and facing an uncertain future, we are thinking and planning ahead and are preparing proposals for work that needs to be completed in future years. These include proposals for completing and printing the brochure, comprehensive planning and GIS mapping of the trail. Given the uncertain and competitive funding situation, we will be seeking help and funds from a variety of sources within and outside of the NPS.

The NPS Harper's Ferry Center and their contractors (McKnight Design) have completed a first draft of the NHT brochure. Efforts towards developing a National Historic Trail logo are continuing and we have developed a brief report summarizing the efforts to date. Joe and Samantha also have a draft strategic plan and summary of the strategic workshops held earlier in the year that with the help of the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. We will use the plan and summary of the workshops as the foundation for future strategic planning efforts and will incorporate broader public input as we move into a more detailed planning process. If you would like to review any of these items, please e-mail Samantha at Samantha_Driscoll@nps.gov or call 215- 597-2334.

Samantha is undertaking an inventory of sites and possible tourism destinations along the full length of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. We have also been consulting the *Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites*, multiple websites, and the state focused historical reports by Dr. Selig. We hope to categorize the sites by national, state, local or municipal management and ownership and also identify sites owned and managed by private organizations. The information collected will hopefully then be translated into Geographic Information System (GIS) maps.

Carolyn Suffern of the W3R-US has developed a spreadsheet that will be used for tracking and reporting the many volunteer hours dedicated citizens are putting towards this effort. We in NPS are grateful for all you do and we hope you will report your valuable contribution of time.

On December 29, Joe attended a meeting arranged by Janet Burnett of W3R-NY to learn about a Town of Ramapo owned parcel that may offer preservation, conservation, educational, recreation and multiuse opportunities while connecting the NHT and other important area features and attractions. We encouraged assembling more information about the site and exploring alternatives through a site planning exercise.

We are continue to receiving more and more requests for information, comment and assistance from organizations and the general public. We are doing our best to provide timely, helpful responses and referrals.

The 1772 Foundation opened grant applications for the following focus areas on September 1, 2011:

African-American History

In partnership with the Northeast Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the 1772 Foundation offers up to \$350,000 in construction grants to African American sites. The 1772 Foundation will accept one-page letters of inquiry via [their website](#) through April 1, 2011. Invited sites will be notified via email to submit a full application by April 15, 2011. Deadline for applications: June 25, 2011. Grant notification: July 2011

Historic Preservation

In cooperation with the New Jersey Historic Trust, the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, and Preserve Rhode Island, funding in the form of 1:1 matching grants up to \$15,000 are available for exterior painting, security and fire detection systems, roof and window restoration, sill repair/replacement, and chimney re-pointing for sites in NJ, CT, RI. The 1772 Foundation will accept one-page letters of inquiry via [their website](#) through April 1, 2011. Invited sites will be notified via email to submit a full application by April 15, 2011. Deadline for applications: June 25, 2011. Grant notification: July 2011

Virginia Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

The Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) is currently accepting applications for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), a reimbursement grant program that provides for the creation and maintenance of trails and trail facilities. This program is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and administered by DCR. This is a matching reimbursement program, and grants may go to registered nonprofit organizations, city governments, county governments or other government entities in accord with guidance from the Virginia Recreational Trails Program Advisory Committee. The RTP requires that 30 percent of trail program funds be used for motorized recreational trail uses, 30 percent for non-motorized recreational trails uses, and 40 percent for proposals with the greatest number of compatible recreational purposes and/or those that provide for innovative recreational trail corridor sharing. The 2010-2011 Application is due January 7th, but we feel that this could be an opportunity for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT in the following application year, 2011-2012. The following link contains the description and sample applications for the RTP program, a useful example in the framework of future grants for any of the NHT states.

http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/trailfnd.shtml

PA Historic preservation grants available

The deadline for Historic Preservation Project grants through the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is fast approaching. PHMC's project grant program can be used for a variety of preservation activities, including historic preservation planning, cultural resource surveys, National Register nominations, planning and development assistance, and archaeology. The program does not fund brick and mortar projects. Entities eligible for application include local governments and not-for-profit organizations including conservancies, historic preservation organizations, historical societies, museums and others. These are 50/50 matching grants up to \$25,000. Cash match is preferred but not required, and any project up to \$10,000 requires no match. Deadline for application is January 31. Find complete details [here](#).

In the News

[Troops marched through Watchung during the Revolutionary War NJ.com](#)

The route that Lamb took is part of the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R) and was declared a national historic trail about a year ago, ...

http://www.nj.com/independentpress/index.ssf/2010/12/troops_marched_through_watchun.html

Upcoming Events

13th National Trails System Conference

The Partnership for the National Trails System has recently announced that the 13th National Trails System Conference will be held in Abingdon, Virginia, May 15-19, 2011. If you are interested in helping organize this important gathering of NST and NHT partners, committees are being organized for program, field trips, a community service project, communications (including marketing and outreach), youth programming, hosting support, and A-V. Contact the Partnership's Julia Glad at PNTSCommunications@gmail.com if you are interested in joining one of the committees.

We'd like to wish you a happy new year and share these videos we found on the History Channel website. You can press "ctrl" and click to follow the link or cut and paste it into your browser. Have a look and let us know what you think.

<http://www.history.com/shows/america-the-story-of-us/videos/american-revolution>

<http://www.history.com/shows/america-the-story-of-us/videos/american-revolution#yorktown>