



Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route News --- April 2011

The National Park Service Fiscal Year 2011 budget provides sufficient funds to maintain NPS NHT services with a reduced travel budget and little or no funds for small purchases. 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 facing an uncertain future, we are planning ahead and are preparing proposals for work that needs to be completed in future years. These include proposals for completing the brochure and activating a NPS website; beginning comprehensive planning; and preparing GIS maps of the trail and related sites. 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.

Joe DiBello and Samantha Driscoll drafted a strategic plan and summary of the strategic workshops held last year. We will use the plan and summary of the workshops as the foundation for future planning efforts and will incorporate broader public input as we move into a more detailed planning process. If you would like to review and comment on the draft please e-mail Samantha at Samantha_Driscoll@nps.gov or call 215- 597-2334 and we will send you a copy. It is also posted on the W3R-US web site

Samantha is undertaking an inventory of the route and 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 mapping is underway, and Google Maps are now available for the corridor. Please see the end of the newsletter for all the links to the Google maps.

The Marcher's are planning a June 2011 to October 2011 walk along the NHT. We think this a great opportunity to feature a series of local events and engage local communities along this more than 700 mile route. A major event and re-enactment being planned at Mount Vernon on September 9, 10 and 11 and it is a great opportunity to showcase the NHT. Some are working towards organizing an event in the Boston area. We are looking for ways that NPS can help or participate in an event in your community. Please let Joe or the Marchers know if you are interested in or hosting an event in your area that we may participate in. With the help of the Northern Virginia Regional Planning Commission, the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail held a workshop May 4th to examine routes between Mount Vernon and Prince William Forest Park which also share resources and constituents with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. They invited us to participate in the workshop and we extended that invitation to Alexandria, VA to connect points north. Joe previously spoke with Jamie Bosket, at George Washington's Mount Vernon about collaborating with them on events they have planned for Sept 9, 10 and 11 including an encampment, re-enactment, and ceremony

commemorating the events that occurred there. We discussed coordinating projects with the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, the Marchers and bicyclists. Plans include inviting a number of elected and government officials in the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service.

Bill Poindexter is having discussions to explore support and coordinate events while bicycling the NHT. This will certainly add a new dimension and new partners to the trail experience. Timing some of the biking activities with events planned by the Marchers offer some exciting possibilities for building awareness and sharing information about the NHT. Check out Bill's blog for updated information.

Events are being planned to walk and bike the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route in Boston on June 12 and in Providence on June 18. Plans are underway to check the two bicycle routes (Boston to Providence and Newport to Providence) in cooperation with the Marchers, the Epic Cycling Expedition, the National Park Service, and the W3R-US. For further information about the W3R-NHT and these treks see www.w3r-us.org.

On April 16 Joe DiBello attended the Annual meeting of the National Washington–Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc. (W3R-US) in Princeton NJ. Marchers and Cycling expeditions have the support of the W3R as these events are important to help get the word out about the NHT. It is hoped that the state chapters will help provide logistical and other support needed for these efforts.

Kim Burdick (W3R-US) created a Facebook site that has dozens of photos of activities that the W3R-US supported or coordinated during the past decade. Visitors to the site have added comments and photos. The W3R-US Facebook site is open to Facebook members only. If you are already a Facebook member the link below will take you to that site. If you are not a Facebook member, the link will take you to a page where you may register for membership on Facebook. There is no fee for membership and the information required to register on Facebook is minimal.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/W3R-Washington-Rochambeau-Revolutionary-Route/185127584842354>

We continue to receive 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. We are also moving ahead with plans to get the NPS web page up and running and we are exploring the application of social media.

Announcements and Opportunities

The 2011 Kodak American Greenways Awards -- Deadline for Application: June 15th, 2011

Do you know an organization that is working to create or improve a greenway, trail or waterway? Apply for a Kodak American Greenways Award grant, and your organization could receive up to \$2,500 in grant funds and recognition that comes with selection by this prestigious national program. The Eastman Kodak Company, The Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society team up each year to present the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. One major element of the Program involves "seed" grant awards to organizations that are growing our nation's network of greenways, blueways, trails and natural areas. These projects connect Americans to the outdoors and their heritage.

For 2011, the Program anticipates awarding up to fifty percent of the grants to those greenways projects that demonstrate the convergence of economic prosperity and the environment. The vitality of a community depends not only on its economic prospects but also on the quality of its natural environment and outdoor recreational space.

Previous recipients have undertaken projects that included the design of a water trail and tourism guide in Columbia, NC; the conversion of an abandoned rail line into a multi-use public trail along the historic Mission Zanja irrigation canal; planting flowers along a community trail to brighten an impoverished neighborhood of Los Angeles; and creating a county-wide greenway and tourism plan in Joe Daviess County, IL. Please see the application for full details and to apply for consideration of your greenway project for Kodak American Greenway Award funding.

NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

Water trails, or blueways, are a great way to get people down to the water, and help communities connect to their waterways. The National Park Service is currently helping local efforts to create water trails in 48 communities across the country through its Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program. Waterways played a huge role in the Washington- Rochambeau Revolutionary Route and there may be opportunities to combine paddling and history along the route. NPS issued a newsletter about rivers and water trails. Please let me know if you are interested in pursuing this idea further.

13th National Trails System Conference

The Partnership for the National Trails System has announced the 13th National Trails System Conference will be held in Abingdon, Virginia, May 14-18, 2011. For further information about the Partnership and to register go to www.pnts.org If you have questions email PNTScommunications@gmail.com or call 414-617-2525.

American Trails Network

Learn how you can support trails by joining the American Trails network American Trails is committed to bringing you all the vital news about funding and policies that affect you. Watch for our ongoing alerts about the budget process, and breaking news on federal transportation funding. Please join our efforts to document the value of trails and bicycle/pedestrian facilities as transportation infrastructure, and be an active and positive voice in the reauthorization process, economic stimulus proposals, and Federal land management agency budgets. Learn how you can help support trails and share the latest information with your networks.

<http://www.americantrails.org/support.html>

Connecticut Markers on the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

We are working with the CT Forest and Park Association to provide a map for their trail month activities brochure. There are a number of trail related events in CT home which is home to three National Trails and we hope to have Washington Rochambeau NHT prominently listed. CT has developed a Washington Rochambeau Trail brochure and there is a publication about trail markers in CT www.hseh.org/CT_MARKERS.pdf

A Revolutionary War Battle and Camp: May 14th and 15th, 2011 at Ridley Creek State Park, PA

Skirmishes and activities will be ongoing with a battle at 1:30 and 4:00 on Saturday and 2:00 on Sunday. Activities include hearth cooking, cannon demonstration, American and Loyalist hospitals, and musket ball making. <http://www.colonialplantation.org/RevWar.htm>

The National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust Preservation Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation offers several types of financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, for-profit companies, and individuals involved in preservation-related projects. Generally, financial assistance available to restore historic buildings and homes can be divided into the three categories below. Please review each of these sections, as there may be some overlap in how funds are awarded.

For those restoring an historic house or other structure for their primary residence.
For nonprofit organizations and federal, state, or local government agencies.
For those restoring or preserving income-producing properties.
For Grant Seekers
Scholarships

Pennsylvania Statewide Preservation Plan

Trail and conservation organizations as well as the general public are encouraged to participate in an upcoming public forum, the feedback from which will help shape the new PA Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The regional public forums will present the results of last year's value survey and moderate a discussion to identify how to best preserve those values through the Commonwealth's historic preservation-related programs. The primary goal of the planning process is for the public to inform the Pennsylvania's State Historic Preservation Office of what they value in their community in order to determine the preservation priorities of people who live and work in Pennsylvania. This plan will help the state identify, prioritize and address historic preservation needs over the course of the next five years. For more information, visit [here](#), or contact Hannah Charlton at (717) 783-2698.

Public forums in the NHT corridor are planned for

June 8, 2011, 1-4 p.m. – Philadelphia. Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 190 N. Independence Mall West, 8th Floor, Philadelphia

June 9, 2011, 12:30-3:30 p.m. – Ambler. Ambler Theater 108 E. Butler Ave, Ambler, PA 19002

2011 Preservation and Revitalization Conference

This year the Preservation and Revitalization Conference will celebrate two anniversaries, the 80th Anniversary of Preservation Maryland, and the 50th Anniversary of the Maryland Historical Trust. The conference will be held in Annapolis, MD on May 20. The Conference offers sessions, tours, and workshops that will help in this process and stimulate discussion. For more information, please visit www.preservationmaryland.org.

Building a New National Trail : SEPTEMBER 11TH NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL™

This year as America approaches the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001, when the United States and the world were shocked by an act of terrorism beyond imagination, our citizens throughout the country have an opportunity to be part of a national trail to be called the September 11th National Memorial Trail; built as a tribute to all those who perished in America's single worst terrorist attack. The establishment of a hiking, biking and driving trail will provide a physical linkage connecting the three memorials commemorating the tragic events that occurred at the Flight 93 National Memorial, the World Trade Center, and the Pentagon. With support from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, and trail and outdoors organizations, three public planning meetings/open houses will be held in PA. One relevant to the NHT is scheduled for May 16, 2011, from 4 – 7PM at Northampton Community College, Room 605, 511 E. Third Street, South Bethlehem. To learn more contact David G. Brickley, President and CEO, September

11th National Memorial Trail Alliance, 4310 Ridgewood Center Drive, Woodbridge, Virginia 22192, phone 703-670-4526, e-mail 911trail@comcast.net

GOOGLE MAPS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCHAMBEAU NHT

Massachusetts

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a26244186491eaed7&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Rhode Island

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a262462f359a49bf0&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Connecticut

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a262479ecf46ddbe7&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

New York

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624b4370a353a50&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

New Jersey

Corridor 1:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624c7bf1a944856&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Corridor 2:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624dde067a2eea2&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Pennsylvania

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624f51bf9d01442&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Delaware

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a26250ec5a59b5191&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Maryland*

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a262523351697efa7&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Virginia*

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a26253679ff8426e3&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

*Please note that the maps for Washington D.C. are part of the Maryland and Virginia maps.