



Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

October 2011

Recent NHT Events

PORT TOBACCO

On October 15 there was a dedication of the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail and an exhibit at the Port Tobacco Courthouse, Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco. Special thanks to Scott Hill of Thomas Stone National Historic Site who attended on behalf of NPS. See more here: [Port Tobacco](#)



THE MISTRESS

Joe DiBello, the Marchers, Tench Tilghman reenactor David L. Smith, Robert Reyes of W3R-MD and Ellen von Karajan from the Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill and Fell's Point in Baltimore embarked on the exploration of the Chesapeake Bay water trail component of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT on board the Fell's Point schooner *Mistress*. Read more here: [Preservation Newsletter](#)





YORKTOWN DAY AND ST. SIMON DEDICATION

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT joined Colonial National Historical Park's dedication ceremony for a wayside commemorating the arrival of Major General Claude Anne de Rouvroy, Marquis de Saint-Simone and his 3,200 French soldiers on the banks of the James River to participate in the siege of Yorktown. Colonial National Historical Park also celebrated Yorktown Day, an annual event which marks the British surrender at the siege of Yorktown in 1781. Special thanks to Superintendent Dan Smith and Colonial National Historical Park for organizing and hosting the event.



TENCH TILGHMAN'S ARRIVAL IN PHILADELPHIA

The W3R-PA held an event at Independence National Historical Park to commemorate the arrival of Lieutenant Colonel Tench Tilghman, aide-de-camp to General George Washington, in Philadelphia to deliver the news of British surrender at Yorktown to Thomas McKean, President of the Continental Congress. Special thanks to Superintendent Cindy MacLeod, Public Affairs Officer Jane Cowley, and Independence National Historical Park for their assistance and participation.



**The photos above are just a sample of these events,
please see the rest at:**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/>



We would like to compile albums of all Washington-Rochambeau NHT events, past and future. Please send any photos you would like included to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov. You can register for a free Flickr account. Once registered, you will be able to comment on all photos. We ask your help in using the comment section to caption the images and tell more about the event!

More information on W3R events can be found at www.w3r-us.org.

Mapping the NHT through the development of GIS files in addition to the Google Maps already available (see below) is still underway. Our headquarters in Washington DC are leading an effort to create GIS map files for all National trails, parks, landmarks and heritage areas. This project will create a unified and consistent NPS map that will be easily accessible by the public, also serving to clearly highlight the many locations where Washington-Rochambeau NHT connects with NPS units, trails and related areas.

We continue to work with the W3R-US to finalize the work plan necessary to move forward with funding as per our cooperative agreement. The NHT draft strategic plan provides a foundation for future planning and activities for the NHT. The cooperative agreement with W3R-US calls for us to work together to carry out these activities. It also requires a work plan which identifies priority activities and projects. An updated NHT draft strategic plan is available for review. Please contact Samantha for a copy. Her phone number is 215-597-2334 and her email address is samantha_driscoll@nps.gov. The mailing address is 200 Chestnut Street on the 3rd floor (370E) Philadelphia PA 19106. And please add her to your to your NHT mailing lists.

Samantha prepared a format for the many public events being arranged by our partners. They are being used for media advisories, invitations, programs and handouts at public events. Here's a sample from a dedication event held in Philadelphia. Please contact Samantha if you have an upcoming event and would like help in using it.

Thanks to Dominic Cardea, Acting Chief of Interpretation and Education, NER, and the Harper's Ferry Center, the unigrid brochure for the NHT has been completed and delivered. We are working on a distribution plan.

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route
in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Inc. (W3R-PA)
and the
National Park Service (NPS)
invite you to attend the dedication ceremonies for the
**Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route
National Historic Trail
in Philadelphia**
Thursday July 14, 2011
11:00 am
*Please join the W3R-PA
with partners, sponsors and supporters
in announcing the National Historic Trail and
dedication of W3R Signs and Banners*
*on the east bank of the Schuylkill River just north of the Market Street Bridge
Near the 2300 Block of Market Street Philadelphia PA 19103*
followed at 12:00 noon with a reception and screening of
"Our National Heritage: The Revolutionary River" Documentary Film
*at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center
640 Water Works Drive Philadelphia PA 19130*
RSVP
Ursula Rosel, VP of W3R-PA
urosela@flickr.net 215-563-8399



On October 7, we met with NER RTCA staff and The D&L National heritage corridor to discuss possibilities of coordinating our trail planning efforts. We will explore opportunities exist for working with communities to tie in the Washington-Rochambeau NHT, D&L Corridor, Water Trails, Scenic Byways, East Coast Greenway and others in PA.

We continue to move forward with Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant in conjunction with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). The grant will be used for designing, installing, and determining locations for directional signage and wayside exhibits for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in New York. The grant also will support the development of maps and brochures, like the NPS unigrid brochure, for the NHT in NY. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT, working through the NPS Harpers Ferry Center and with our NY and Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area partners, will carry out the project.

W3R-NY member Carolyn Suffern wrote an article promoting heritage tourism in Suffern, NY in relation to the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. See the article here: <http://www.lohud.com/article/BH/20111009/OPINION/110090328/Quarry-would-better-site-proposed-hotel>

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. For your interest, the following article discusses the “Battle of the Chesapeake,” or the “Battle of the Virginia Capes” and its instrumental role in the route to Yorktown: *The Forgotten Battle Which Won The American Revolution*

It is with great sorrow that we inform you of the passing of Damon Rodnac. Damon was one of The Marchers who planned to walk the Washington-Rochambeau NHT this year. She introduced a group of young people to the NHT and led them on a journey along the route in June. Sadly, Damon was afflicted with cancer and passed away in the month of October. We will continue marching forward and keep her in our thoughts.



Announcements and Opportunities

America's Great Outdoors

On October 20, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced the upcoming release of the America's Great Outdoors: 50-State Report that will outline specific and promising ways to reconnect Americans to the outdoors and promote the creation of jobs in tourism and outdoor recreation in every state in the nation. The report, part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative, is a result of 50 meetings with governors and stakeholders held by Secretary Salazar and other senior Interior officials to solicit ideas on the best investments in each state to support a healthy, active population, conserve wildlife and working lands, and create travel, tourism and outdoor-recreation jobs across the country. The America's Great Outdoors initiatives are being announced. To learn more about the state initiatives, please visit: <http://www.doi.gov/Americas-Great-Outdoors-Highlighted-Projects.cfm>

A Call to Action

NPS is calling on employees and partners to commit to actions to advance the service toward 2016, the 100th anniversary of the NPS. Please let us know if you have ideas that we can apply to the NHT. To learn more or download the full Call to Action plan, please visit: <http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/>

Fort Monroe designated a National Monument

President Obama proclaimed Fort Monroe in Hampton, Virginia, our country's newest national monument. This proclamation is the culmination of years of advocacy. Rich in history, this former Army base is now the newest unit of our National Park System.

Study for possible designation of Tidal Delaware River National Recreation Area

In 2010, representatives from Pennsylvania Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz and New Jersey Congressman Robert Andrews' offices announced that they would be sending a letter to NPS Director Jon Jarvis requesting a Reconnaissance Survey be taken to "identify the nationally significant resources of the Tidal Delaware River in order to determine whether the region merits being designated as a National Recreation Area." Pennsylvania Congressman Patrick Murphy added his name to the letter shortly thereafter.

On October 18 2011 National Park Service Northeast Regional Director Dennis Reidenbach announced the start of a Reconnaissance Study of the Tidal Delaware River, which will cover roughly the area between the Scudder Falls Bridge in New Jersey and Pea Patch Island in Delaware. The study will explore the historic, natural, and recreational to determine national significance, suitability, feasibility and need for NPS management.



If you have any information on particular sites of interest, please share those resources with us or contact Jeff Knowles, Pennsylvania Environmental Council at Jknowles@pecpa.org or 215-545-4570 x103.

**The Conservation Fund:
Balancing Nature and Commerce in Communities that Neighbor
Public Lands**

January 30 - February 1, 2012 in Shepherdstown, WV

The Conservation Fund is offering a three-day course where teams will focus on the economics, natural resources and community character of their areas and learn valuable partnership-building skills. At the end of the course, teams will leave with a specific action plan for implementing a collaborative project when they return home. This course is offered in partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and targets community leaders, citizens, and land managers to focus on the issues of communities which border on public land like national or state parks, wildlife refuges, or forests.

Course Objectives are to describe the social, political, and economic characteristics of communities and their public land neighbors; identify the benefits of protecting and enhancing natural, cultural and visual resources of communities; describe approaches to land use and community planning, that provide common ground for conservation and development interests; and identify opportunities for developing partnerships between communities and neighboring public land managers.

To apply or learn more, please visit: [Conservation Fund](#)

Livability Solutions:

Apply for FREE technical assistance in community initiatives in livability, smart growth, or sustainability

Applications due November 22

Through a grant to Project for Public Spaces from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Sustainable Communities under their Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program, Livability Solutions will be offering free technical assistance workshops to 6 to 12 communities around the country, enabling local governments and communities to implement changes that will move them along the road towards smart growth and sustainability. This technical assistance will take the form of one- to two-day workshops intended to provide communities with strategies to enhance livability, to create lasting economic and environmental improvements, and to effect positive change for their residents. The focus will be on helping communities reach a tipping point or overcoming a significant hurdle in reaching a particular livability or sustainability goal, building off of each community's unique character, culture, creativity, and effort.

Any local, regional, state, or tribal government, or agency or subdivision thereof, or community-based organization working in close conjunction with any such division of government may apply.

To learn more and apply, please visit: [Livability Solutions](#)



W3R-US on Facebook

Check out the W3R-US Facebook site. It is open to Facebook members only. If you are already a Facebook member the link 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.

National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP)

The National Park Service has awarded \$1.2 million in grants to fund 25 projects over 76 battlefields under the American Battlefield Protection Program. This year's grants provide funding for projects at endangered battlefields from the Pequot War, King Philip's War, Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War II and various Indian Wars. Awards were given to projects in 24 states or territories entailing archeology, mapping, cultural resource survey work, documentation, planning, education and interpretation. Priority was given to those groups submitting applications for nationally significant battlefields. One chosen battlefield was the Revolutionary War site of Two Bridges Battlefield in New Jersey. This battlefield was in the town of Branchburg and demonstrated the resolve of local militia to defend against the British and loyalist troops. This chosen site is very close to the Washington-Rochambeau NHT mapped route of New Jersey. The site is visible on this map of New Jersey.

NPS Updates "Strategies for Protecting Archeological Sites on Private Lands"

The NPS Heritage Preservation Services website "Strategies for Protecting Archeological Sites on Private Lands" has been updated. "Strategies" is a guide to the wide variety of tools available for protecting archeological sites on private lands. The site contains information on strategies currently being used throughout the U.S., case studies, keys to success, contact information, and links to other sources of useful information. Key strategies include land ownership, financial strategies, development regulation, laws specific to archeology, voluntary strategies, and site management.

The development of this web site was a collaborative effort of two NPS cultural resource programs (Heritage Preservation Services and Archeology Program), The Archaeological Conservancy, the Society for American Archaeology, the Society for Historical Archaeology, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

For more information, go to:

www.nps.gov/history/hps/pad/strategies.html.



Google Maps of the NHT

[Click on the state for map](#)

Massachusetts

Rhode Island

Connecticut

New York

New Jersey, Corridor 1

New Jersey, Corridor 2

Pennsylvania

Delaware

Maryland

Virginia

Washington DC