



Washington-Rochambeau

Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

December 2011

Recent NHT Events



Boston, Massachusetts

On December 4th, Alan Hoffman, the Lafayette Society and the W3R-MA hosted a dedication of the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail at the Bunker Hill Monument and Museum in Boston National Historical Park. Following the ceremonies Dr. Selig gave a lecture on “Boston’s French Connections and Contributions to the Victory at Yorktown.” A special thanks to all the staff at Boston NHP for assisting and participating.

Baltimore, Maryland

Ellen von Karajan, the Preservation Society and Baltimore Heritage hosted a lecture by Dr. Selig in Fell’s Point, Baltimore on December 10th. The lecture was titled “The French Connection: The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail.”

Joe DiBello
Superintendent
Joe_DiBello@nps.
gov
215-597-1581

Samantha Driscoll
Preservation
Planner
Samantha_
Driscoll@nps.gov
215-597-2334

200 Chestnut Street
3rd Floor
Philadelphia PA
19106

Please see photos of past events 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!

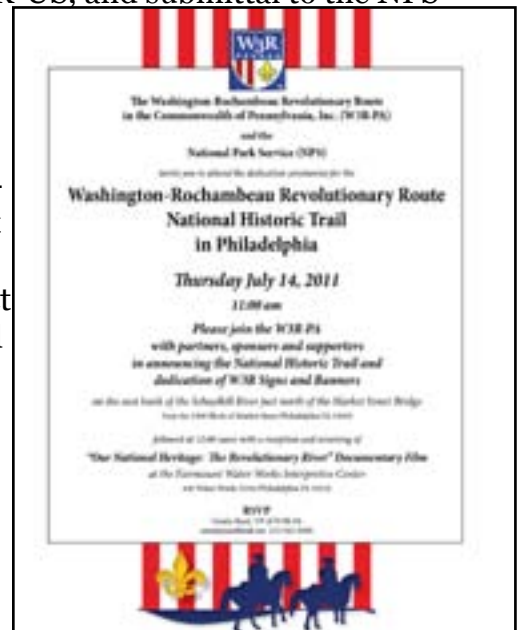
More information on W3R events can be found at www.w3r-us.org.

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 met with the W3R-US Program Committee Work group, including Ursula Reed, Ellen von Karajan, and Bill Connely regarding the work plan for the \$20,000 NPS Challenge Cost Share Agreement. The work plan is ready for approval by Sallie de Barcza, Chair of W3R-US, and submittal to the NPS so work can begin.

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. Some unigrid brochures have been circulated and we are working on a distribution plan. Please contact us with your requests for copies.



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.



The NHT moving into 2012...

National Park Service *A Call to Action*

The National Park Service is nearing its 100th Anniversary in 2016. National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis has announced the plan *A Call to Action* to move the NPS into a new century.

“A Call to Action offers tangible, concrete ways for us to work together to transform our organization to make sure that we are ready for a future that is, in so many ways, different from our past. It includes bold new ideas and expands on terrific ideas that are already field-tested.

A Call to Action also signals the start of a strategic integration of national parks and National Park Service community-based programs. This will increase our reach and better leverage our resources to invite the American people to learn more about our mission and join us in the stewardship of our nation’s most incredible places.”

A Call to Action calls for creative and innovative ways to interpret, experience, communicate, protect, and educate the parks, trails, sites, and resources of the National Park Service. See the plan *A Call to Action* at:

http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/pdf/C2A_report.pdf

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail is perfectly situated to embrace this plan as we work with communities along the route. We will focus on these three actions:

Connecting People to Parks, Action 3: History Lesson

“Expand the meaning of parks to new audiences and provide an opportunity for communities to learn more about their heritage by conducting history discovery events, using oral histories and other methods, in at least 100 parks.”

This action is a description of a key goal of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. We will look for ways in 2012 to reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event. We have had many successful events in 2011 that helped get the word out, but we must build on and expand the reach of our message. We plan to double our efforts to work with national parks, national trails, heritage areas and states to connect and tell the story of the NHT.



Connecting People to Parks, Action 5: Parks for People

“Enhance the connection of densely populated, diverse communities to parks, greenways, trails, and waterways to improve close-to-home recreation and natural resources conservation. We will achieve this through a proactive Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program that mobilizes citizens in support of improved access to outdoor areas in at least 50 of the communities nationwide with the least access to parks.”

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT is unique to other national trails as it connects many of the largest metropolitan areas on the east coast, through some of the most densely populated areas in the United States. The NHT also connects a great many national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route. We can use this opportunity to explore innovative ways to connect the NHT with these communities and add cultural resource preservation and interpretation to the natural and recreation resources along the route with the help of RTCA.

Advancing the NPS Education Mission, Action 17: Go Digital

“Reach new audiences and maintain a conversation with all Americans by transforming the NPS digital experience to offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content from every park and program. To accomplish this we will create a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media.”

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT will have an official NPS website up and running in early 2012, followed by Facebook and Twitter presence, and a blog for highlighting events, stories, and discussion of the NHT. The Google maps will be accessible from these sites as well, and we wish to pursue plans for an interactive map of the entire NHT. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT, because of its over 700 miles of trail, will need to rely heavily on digital means for uniting the story and sharing the experience of the NHT.

We encourage you to take a look at the NPS plan *A Call to Action*. We welcome you to share your thoughts with us about the Washington-Rochambeau NHT and how we can implement these or other actions. We also encourage you to help us come up with creative and innovative projects as we can move forward in 2012. We look forward to working with you in making great strides in interpretation and communicating of the story of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT.



Announcements and Opportunities

Fort Monroe designated a National Monument

Fort Monroe in Hampton, Virginia has become our country's newest national monument. Fort Monroe National Monument is a 19th century former Army post that is integral to the history of slavery, the Civil War, and the U.S. military.

National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis explained the significance of this designation, "Two hundred and forty-two years after the first enslaved Africans landed on this peninsula, the Fort became a safe haven for slaves seeking refuge during the Civil War. As a 'contraband camp' Fort Monroe provided a pathway to freedom for thousands. As our nation commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the National Park Service is proud to add Fort Monroe to our arsenal of places that tell the American story."

The new national park is expected to bring significant economic benefits to the local community by creating jobs and driving tourism. In 2009, the National Park System received over 285 million recreation visits, with visitors spending nearly \$12 billion in local gateway regions and supporting 247,000 jobs nationally. Overall, each federal dollar invested in national parks generates at least four dollars of economic value to the public. Twenty-year National Park Service veteran Kirsten Talken-Spaulding was named as Superintendent of the new Fort Monroe National Monument.

PHMC Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Now Accepting Applications

The PA Historical and Museum Commission is now accepting applications for Keystone Historic Preservation Project and Construction Grants. Applications are due March 1.

The grants support projects that identify, preserve, promote and protect historic and archaeological resources in Pennsylvania for both the benefit of the public and community revitalization. The grants receive funding from the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund.

Two types of grants – project and construction – are available for historic resources in Pennsylvania listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. Applicants may apply for only one type of grant. Project grants are available to nonprofit organizations and local governments for planning and development initiatives that enhance historic preservation in communities. Project grant applications may include municipal planning initiatives focusing on historic resources or may be used to meet building- or



project-specific planning goals. Construction grants are available for rehabilitation, preservation and restoration activities for historic resources that are publicly accessible.

Grants will be awarded through a competitive selection process and are contingent on availability of funds. Applicants are required to use the web-based electronic grant application process (eGrant). For grant program guidelines and eGrant application instructions, visit PHMC online. Keystone Historic Preservation Grants are available in amounts between \$5,000 and \$25,000 and require a 50/50 cash match.

For more information, contact Karen Arnold
email: kaarnold@pa.gov or telephone at 717-783-9927.

The Federal Highway Administration grant opportunity

The Federal Highway Administration has announced our solicitation for FY 2012 candidate projects for 12 discretionary grant programs, including the National Scenic Byways Program. The Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2011, Part II (Extension Act), title I of Public Law 112-30, extended Federal-aid highway program funding through March 31, 2012. FHWA plans to award funding available for these programs under the six-month extension. If additional FY 2012 funding for these programs is provided, FHWA intends to subsequently award these additional program funds based upon responses to this solicitation, if merited by the applications that are received.

Detailed information regarding the solicitation can be found at: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/discretionary/index.cfm>

Applications for the National Scenic Byways Program must be completed at: <http://www.bywaysonline.org/grants/>

Applications will be due to the FHWA Division Offices by January 6, 2012.

Contact: Gary A. Jensen
Byways, TCSP & Delta Programs Team Leader
Federal Highway Administration
gary.jensen@dot.gov or 202-366-2048

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

January 30 - February 1, 2012 in Shepherdstown, WV

The Conservation Fun 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: http://www.conservationfund.org/course/balancing_nature_and_commerce_communities_neighbor_public_lands

D&L Trail Connection Will Aid Access To Delaware Canal

A major obstacle in the completion of the 165-mile Delaware & Lehigh Trail is a step closer to being eliminated, thanks to a recent award that will close gaps in the trail in Lower Bucks County and promote a regional network of multi-use trails, including the Washington-Rochambeau NHT, within the Greater Philadelphia area.

A \$471,000 grant from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Regional Trails Program – funded through the William Penn Foundation - paired with \$1.69 million of Federal Transportation Enhancement funds secured by the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, will be used to connect two segments of the D&L Trail in Tullytown Borough, Bucks County, that are currently disconnected by U.S. Route 13. The project is being administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The disconnected sections of the D&L Trail will be brought together by a tunnel constructed underneath the four-lane Route 13. The trail will follow the old towpath of the Delaware Canal, which was filled in at Route 13 during the 1950s. The D&L Trail, which will run from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol when complete, has been identified as a "Regional Trunk Trail" connecting Lower Bucks County to Philadelphia and extending north into the Lehigh and Wyoming valleys. DCNR has worked closely with the Heritage Corridor for nearly a decade to secure funding for the Route 13 project.

Once completed, the tunnel underneath Route 13 will allow trail users in Lower Bucks County greater access to Delaware Canal State Park, which parallels the Delaware River through Bucks and Northampton counties and ends in Easton.



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.

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