

# The National W3R Association

## Mission Statement

The National W3R Association is a nine-state partnership to support designation of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route as a National Historic Trail and to educate the public on:

- the three-year presence of the French Expeditionary Force in the U.S.
- the march south of the allied armies to the climactic battle at Yorktown under the joint leadership of Generals Washington and Rochambeau
- their triumphant return north.

## Objectives

- (A) Support the National Park Service and our State Historic Preservation Officers in their preparation of materials and presentations related to designating the W3R as a National Historic Trail. Make the idea a reality with or without a National Trail designation.
- (B) Help develop an integrated plan encouraging people to view the sites along the W3R as a "string of pearls", more valuable when considered together than visited separately.
- (C) Ensure funding of W3R items that do not fall directly into other organizations' charters or where there are leveraging impacts in our doing so (for example producing brochures, signs, Web sites.
- (D) Be the primary catalyst for planning and coordinating the 225th celebration (in 2006) of the 1781 W3R march from Newport and Boston (source of reinforcements) to Yorktown, their return trip north, the many encampments along the way, and the winter camps of the French troops in several states.
- (E) Support the W3R as a key Revolutionary War "Heritage Tourism / Heritage Educational" attraction for 2006 and beyond, with a focus on historical and environmental preservation along the trail and on the "march to destiny," but also note the many other attractions related to that era to encourage side-trips from the W3R tour.
- (F) Maximize the impact and minimize the costs of the above via cooperative participation with other organizations in the nine-state W3R area.

## Typical Activities and Projects -- See [WWW.W3R-US.ORG](http://WWW.W3R-US.ORG)

- Research: supporting the compilation of research to document the places and events of original W3R activities
- Commemoration: facilitating the placing of grave markers for allied soldiers who died on the W3R, route markers, and interpretive sign
- Preservation: working with local preservation groups to save and restore W3R sites
- Education: developing presentations, events and materials for heritage groups, K-12 classes, and field trips
- Tours: encouraging and facilitating tours by interested members of the public
- Brochures: preparing interpretive brochures to guide heritage tourists
- Re-enactments: coordinating them with tours and other events along the route
- Hosting: helping arrange for lineage and historical societies to host foreign and domestic tourists (many of whom will be descendants of Washington's or Rochambeau's soldier