While we anxiously await the resolution of the budget, we are continuing move ahead cautiously in these times of reductions and constraints. We are working to develop partnerships to get the word out about the NHT and diversify the source of funds to help finance and carry out trail related projects and initiatives. Highlighted are some activities we are pursuing that we think will help move the NHT forward and add value in your community. Please let us know if you have some suggestions or know of opportunities for us to work on together.

Two American Revolution Grant Applications were submitted to the National Park Service’s American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) with assistance from the Washington-Rochambeau NHT staff. The purpose of the ABPP is to provide seed money for projects that lead to the preservation of battlefield land and/or associated sites. One application was submitted by Gloucester County, Virginia’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism seeking funding to evaluate remaining resources along the Route 17 corridor that were associated with Gloucester Point, Virginia and the 1781 Battle of the Hook and to develop

Battle off the Capes ABPP grant included, “Homage to the French Fleet,” a reproduction of the original 1781 map from *Atlas of the American Revolution*, Rand McNally, 1974-75, pp 186-188
interpretive plans for telling this story. Another was submitted by the Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Department focused on the 1781 Battle off the Capes to determine both the area of this naval battle between the British and French and opportunities to interpret this battle more broadly to the public. Both the Gloucester Point Battle of the Hook and the Chesapeake Bay Battle off the Capes were critical to the combined French/American siege of Yorktown that resulted in the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and ultimately American independence. Announcements of successful grant awards should be made in July 2013.

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT will also be submitting an application for the National Park Foundation’s 2013 Active Trails Grants Program. The active Trails Program promotes healthy living by getting people out and active on the trails. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT application is to create bike trails along the NHT in Connecticut, connecting with nine Revolutionary War themed trails planned by a team including Sal Lilienthal, owner of The Bicycle Tour Company, and Professor and author Mary Collins. The routes, including the NHT, will be part of an interactive website which will allow potential tourists to match their riding ability to easy, moderate, and difficult sections of these historical routes. The NHT will form the main artery within the network, and will also connect the New England National Scenic Trail, Appalachian National Scenic Trail, the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, and various historical sites along the route. Our application will help promote the Connecticut Tourism Board’s new motto, “It’s Still Revolutionary.”

Samantha Driscoll has been selected to receive a Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati Fellowship for 2013. This fellowship will allow Samantha to carry out research for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in the collections of the Society of the Cincinnati library in Washington DC. The research will include a focus on the Battle off the Capes and the personal accounts of French and Continental soldiers of the Yorktown campaign.

Staff at both Valley Forge and Independence Historical Parks are making arrangements for relocating the Washington-Rochambeau display currently located at Valley Forge National Historical Park to its original location at the Independence National Historical Park Visitor Center, located at Sixth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. The Independence Visitor Center will also display Washington-Rochambeau NHT brochures and provide passport stamps.

We would like to compile photos 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 place, people, or event!

Please see photos of past events at:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/
We’ve gone digital!

Please visit the official NPS website for the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail: [www.nps.gov/waro](http://www.nps.gov/waro)


NPS: A Call to Action

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


The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail will work with communities along the route to:

- Reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event

- Connect the national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route and add cultural resource preservation and interpretation to the natural and recreation resources along the route

- Offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content in a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media

Online Tourism Guide for the NHT

The NPS website section called, “Things to Do,” will act as a tourism guide to the NHT where potential tourists will be able to select the state in which they are planning to travel, and view a list of sites and destinations along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. **We ask your help in telling us which sites you would like to see included from your state!** The sites should be open to the public, and can be federal, state, local, or non-profit. Please send your list of destinations and their corresponding websites directly to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov.

Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route

The NPS website is now up and running, allowing us to have a more accessible format for the Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route. Please follow this link to the ‘Directions’ page of the NPS site and click on the state. [http://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/directions.htm](http://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/directions.htm)
Announcements

Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks Trail Meeting
February 9, 2013

Baltimore City’s Department of Recreation and Parks would like to invite trail enthusiast of all kinds to a gathering to explore what’s new and what’s next. Baltimore has miles of natural surface trails and paved trails. We could not do it without our clubs and friends groups! Come share what projects are going on, where new trails are, and learn about resources available for your trail! Interested in Naturalist Trainings, Participating in National Trails Day, Single Track and Skill Courses, Work Days and Maps? Come out and meet others interested in Trails in Baltimore!
Saturday, Feb. 9 10 a.m. – noon
Vollmer Center at Cylburn Arboretum

Agenda includes:
• Welcome from Bill Vondrasek, Chief of Parks
• Update on Jones Falls and Herring Run Trail
• Update on Baltimore Historical Trails by National Park Service
• Planning for National Trails Day

To register, please contact Molly Gallant at (443) 984-4058 or molly.gallant@baltimorecity.gov

Register Now for Hike the Hill 2013
February 9-14, 2013

“Hike the Hill” is a joint effort by the American Hiking Society and the Partnership for a National Trails System to gather trail leaders from all across the country in Washington DC. Hike the Hill includes workshops, discussions, seminars, and presentations on policy, the new Congress, and the benefits of trails. Attendees will also meet with colleagues and congressional representatives. If you would like more information and/or registration information please visit: http://www.americanhiking.org/hth/

Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails Financial Assistance Awards
Applications due March 1, 2013

The National Park Service Chesapeake Bay office is accepting project proposals from Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails partners for financial assistance awards. Public access site development projects that advance the development of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail or the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail or Chesapeake Bay Gateways water trails are the funding priority for fiscal year 2013.
Projects must occur within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Funding requests may range from $10,000 to $125,000; and there must be an equal (1:1) or greater non-Federal match. Applicants must be either a non-profit organization or a state or local government. Applications are due by 4:00pm on Friday, March 1, 2013. Additional information including Program Guidelines, Project Submission Requirements and the Project Application Form are available at [www.baygateways.net/grants.cfm](http://www.baygateways.net/grants.cfm).

There are various sites along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT which may qualify and perhaps the NHT could be considered as part of other proposals where we share a common site or corridor. Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application.

**New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation Recreational Trails Program**

The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation plans on holding a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant round this year. There will be over $2 million available in funding. The grant application process is expected to be folded into the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process. Timing for the next CFA round is yet to be determined. Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application.

**NY Hudson Valley Heritage Weekend to become Path Through History Weekends: June 1-2 and 8-9, 2013**

NY Hudson Valley Heritage Weekend will become part of an even greater effort to promote the unique history of New York State, Path Through History Weekends! The same heritage and cultural celebrations and special programming will now be held June 1-2 and 8-9. Please email questions about 2013 Path Through History Weekends to hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov.

**Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Conservation Partnership Grants Applications due April 10, 2013**

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will begin accepting applications for the 2013 round of Community Conservation Partnership Grants on January 9. The deadline for applications is April 10. DCNR will host a series of 7 regional grant workshops designed to assist potential grant applicants with preparing their applications and providing information about the program. The
workshop dates and locations in our area are Feb. 6: Conshohocken – Montgomery County Public Safety Training Campus: Fire Academy and Feb. 7: Doylestown – Heritage Conservancy: Aldie Mansion.

For grant applications and instructions, visit the DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Grants webpage or contact the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation’s Linda Manning by sending email to: Linmanning@pa.gov.

**National Trust for Historic Preservation Small Grant Program**

**Applications due February 1, June 1, or October 1, 2013**

In 2012, the National Trust for Historic Preservation awarded more than $1 million to nearly 200 projects across the country through its small grant program. This annual program supports local preservation organizations’ efforts to preserve and protect important places in their communities. The majority of funding comes from the National Trust Preservation Fund which supports preservation planning and educational projects. Nonprofit organizations and public agencies that are members of the National Trust at the Forum or Main Street level are eligible to apply.

Grants typically range from $2,500-$5,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match. This match can be a grant from a foundation or other grant-making organization, funds raised from local support, or any other revenue source. The National Trust Preservation Fund is made up of many endowed funds that are specific to states and/or regions, but all applicants use a common application form. Once an application is received, the Trust’s Grants office will determine the most appropriate source of available funding.

There are three annual deadlines for the National Trust Preservation Fund: February 1, June 1, and October 1. There are also special funds with a single deadline each year. Learn more about those special grant opportunities. Visit the Find Funding page on our website to read our full guidelines and access our online grant application system. [http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/documents/preservation-funds-guidelines-eligibility.html#UQFqR-R35jkR](http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/documents/preservation-funds-guidelines-eligibility.html#UQFqR-R35jkR). Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application.

**America’s Best Idea Grants Program by the National Park Foundation**

**March - December 2013 cycle**

America’s Best Idea Grants Program is an NPF signature program that provides a springboard from which national parks can initiate projects that reach out to new partners, strengthen existing relationships, and/or engage new audiences. This is a “community engagement program,” designed to involve underserved and un-
der-engaged audiences in meaningful and relevant ways. While not the sole focus of this year’s grant cycle, “engaging youth” – getting kids to literally experience parks either in person or virtually – is a major focus. It is also critical to tie community partners into the projects, whether local, state, regional or Federal.

Grant applications should consider:
- Engaging youth in meaningful, enduring ways
- Forging and/or expanding community partnerships
- Targeting underserved audiences
- Motivating park stewardship
- Connecting to local, state, and other federal lands
- Leveraging grant dollars
- Empowering program participants
- Promoting and celebrating your project

Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application.

For more information, please visit: http://www.nationalparks.org/our-work/programs/americas-best-idea