

National Park Service | Chesapeake Bay Office Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail



News and Updates about the Trail and the War of 1812
Bicentennial in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC

Spring 2010

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What is the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail?



Learn more about the Star-Spangled Banner Trail and related initiatives at our [Trail website](#).

Chesapeake Gateways



Get to know the [Chesapeake Gateways](#) along the Trail and throughout the Bay while biking, fishing, paddling, or just relaxing.

John Smith Trail



The Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail closely follows the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail. By water or from land, you can retrace this 400-year-old history [right now](#).

Join Us by Bicycle on National Trails Day, June 5th



To celebrate National Trails Day on June 5, a ten-mile family-friendly bike ride will link historic sites on both sides of the Potomac River with connections to the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812. Costumed interpreters will provide programs at Carlyle House Historic Park in Alexandria, Virginia and at Oxon Hill Farm in Oxon Hill, Maryland for bike ride participants. This

event is sponsored by the National Park Service, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, City of Alexandria's Office of Historic Alexandria, Oxon Hill Bicycle and Trail Club, and BikeWalk Alexandria. For more information, contact Ruth Reeder at ruth.reeder@alexandria.gov or [Suzanne Copping](#).

Seeking your Feedback on Draft Trail Interpretive Plan

Building on eight public workshops held in fall 2009, a draft Interpretive Plan for the Star-Spangled Banner Trail will be posted [online](#) for public comment beginning in late May. The plan will provide an interpretive framework for telling the Trail's stories at sites and along trail segments, priorities and goals for developing robust land and water experiences for visitors, and strategies for working with partners to implement interpretive programs. Please take a minute to tell us if anything is missing from this plan or could be improved, and how you see your site/organization using this interpretive plan to develop learning and recreational opportunities along the Trail. For more information, contact [Suzanne Copping](#) or [Vince Vaise](#).

1812 Stakeholders meet in North Point on June 22

The Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission hosted its fourth of six conferences for stakeholders linked to the upcoming bicentennial celebrations across the state. Over 60 people attended the Upper Eastern Shore conference on April 1st. The conference started with a discussion led by Mary Margaret Revell Goodwin, executive director of the Eastern Shore 1812 Consortium, historian Ralph Eshelman, and Scott Sheads, a Fort McHenry ranger. Attendees then toured the Kitty Knight House, Caulk's Field, the Mitchell House, Bowlingly, and Slippery Hill.



The next conference will take place at North Point on June 22nd.

A Star-Spangled 200



[Learn more](#) about the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission.



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Attendees will begin the day at North Point State Park and will tour Fort Howard, Todd's Inheritance, North Point State Battlefield, and the Aquila Randall monument. For registration information, contact Kate Marks at kmarks@choosmaryland.org or 410-767-6974.

Star-Spangled Banner Geotrail connects MD, VA, and DC



The new Star-Spangled Banner Geotrail is a unique journey through American history and across the landscapes of the Chesapeake Bay. Using a GPS (Global Positioning System), participants must find hidden caches using coordinates available at geocaching.com. The Geotrail connects the history of the War of 1812 at over 35 forts, museums, battlefields, ships, parks

and preserves in Maryland, the District, and Virginia. Since launching in February, the Geotrail has received over 3800 visits from individuals, families and groups, many of whom are visiting these cache sites for the first time. This multi-state initiative receives support from the [Maryland Geocaching Society](#), the [Friends of Chesapeake Gateways](#), participating sites and many volunteers.

Education is Everywhere along the Trail



Educational Initiatives are underway Trail-wide as the NPS and partners work to fulfill the needs of teachers and students leading up to the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and beyond. An assessment of currently available K-12 resources has been completed and is available on the Bicentennial Commission website in the Resources Section

(www.starspangled200.org). New educational materials related to the War of 1812 are being developed based on the needs identified by this assessment and will be posted online as they become available. Multiple opportunities for teacher professional development will begin in fall 2010. If you are a teacher or know of a teacher that would like to assist in planning efforts or receive notices of teacher training and the release of new materials, email or call [Abbi Wicklein-Bayne](mailto:Abbi.Wicklein-Bayne) (410-260-2483).

Trail and Byway Management Planning to Begin in May

Wallace Roberts & Todd will be the lead consultant on the development of a combined management plan for the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and Maryland's Star-Spangled Banner Byway. The plan, to be completed by fall 2011, will guide the efforts of the NPS, state, regional, and local partners, non-profits and businesses to develop and maintain the Trail and Byway throughout and as a legacy of the Bicentennial period. The plan:

- Identifies the Byway and the Trail's significant places and stories and how to protect critical resources
- Identifies management objectives and alternatives, and identifies a preferred alternative

- Assesses potential impacts on natural and cultural resources
- Establishes how the Trail and Byway will be developed and managed over 15-20 years
- Guides implementation priorities, including fostering meaningful land and water-based learning and recreational opportunities

For more information on management planning, [click here](#). For more information on the planning process, contact [Suzanne Copping](#).

Watertrails Plan to be completed by July 2010

Environmental Resources Management (ERM), the lead consultant on the development of a plan to identify investment priorities to improve water access and water trail experiences along Maryland portions of the Star-



Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, held webinars on March 24th and 25th to provide local government officials and site managers an overview of initial planning efforts. A final plan is anticipated in July.

For more information, visit

www.warof1812.org.

MD Bicentennial Commission, Advisory Committees Meet

Over the last five months, the Advisory Committees of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission have met to formulate recommendations and implement projects listed in the Commission's action plan, [Star-Spangled 200: A National Bicentennial in Maryland](#). The Advisory Committees are: Transportation and Capital Infrastructure, Resource Stewardship and Visitor Experience, Education and Curriculum, Communications and Marketing, Development and Sponsorships, Program and Events, and Operations and Management. Information and meeting minutes of the committees can be found at www.starspangled200.org. For more information, contact Bill Pencek, Executive Director of the Commission at bpencek@choosemaryland.org. The next Commission meeting will be held in late June.

Bicentennial generates film, digital-media projects

When the new visitors' center at Fort McHenry opens March 3, 2011 - the 80th anniversary of the adoption of the *Star-Spangled Banner* as the National Anthem - a new orientation film will be unveiled. A production company was filming it at Holly Hill Farm in Anne Arundel County this month with the assistance of the Maryland Film Office and 150 costumed actors. This is one of the film and digital-media projects - featuring Maryland locations and employing Maryland residents - that have emerged in conjunction with plans for Maryland's celebration of the War of 1812 bicentennial. Here are several others:

- 90-minute War of 1812 documentary, produced by Florentine Films for WNED-public TV and the Public Broadcasting Service, set to air nationally in fall 2011.
- 60-minute travelogue featuring the *Star-Spangled Banner National*

Historic Trail, produced by Maryland Public Television for the Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts, set to air in fall 2011.

- Free web-based learning game for youths, 9 to 13, produced by Fort McHenry and the Friends of Fort McHenry.

For more information, contact Kate Marks at kmarks@choosemaryland.org

MD Star-Spangled 200 License Plate Available June 12

On June 12th, the new standard Maryland license plate with a Star-Spangled theme will be available to Maryland motorists. The new plate design commemorates the upcoming bicentennial of the War of 1812. The kick-off will take place as part of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) centennial event at MVA headquarters in Glen Burnie. For more information, contact Kate Marks at kmarks@choosemaryland.org or 410-767-6974.

Thank you for your interest in and support of the Star-Spangled Banner Trail and the upcoming Bicentennial!

[Suzanne Copping](#), Project Manager, Star-Spangled Banner NHT

[Kate Marks](#), Outreach and Partnerships Coordinator, Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission

[Abbi Wicklein-Bayne](#), Interpretive Specialist, Star-Spangled Banner NHT

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