

An Introduction to The United States Camp At Rehoboth

As our forces gather for the Defense of Redway Plain, our hosts and the QM staff have been busily gathering provisions and amenities to ensure that none of the Brave Volunteers will go for want. Though the tasks performed prior to the camp opening may be overlooked, they are essential to ensuring a smooth, safe and educational experience for all. I believe such efforts combined with your cooperation will result in a job well done that we can look back on with glowing satisfaction. Finally, as true success is linked to good communication, it will also be important to pass along to each of your unit members these Rules & Guidelines of the Camp.

Many of the rules that you will see for this camp are similar to what you have seen at other events, but nonetheless bear repeating.

Structure

The camp will be structured in the von Steuben manner. Each battalion will camp together as a block soldiers front, followed by sub-alterns & officers and the kitchen areas in the back. The QM or QM Sergeants will assign you a space as you arrive. Please seek us out before unloading any equipment. It is my intention that each participant set up their respective camps only once...in the correct spot.

Arrival

Registration will be open beginning at noon on Friday. Please park in the designated temporary parking area and register before driving into camp to unload. As traffic flow will be important to assure a smooth camp setup, please be prepared to unload and remove vehicles to the designated off site parking as quickly as possible. Further information on parking will be available at registration. Vehicles will not be permitted to remain in camp overnight. If you arrive in the middle of the night, please seek out and wake the Quartermaster or a Quartermaster Sergeant. The QM tent will be conspicuously placed and labeled. Once camps officially open Saturday morning vehicles will no longer be allowed in camp, so please plan to arrive early.

Parking

During the set-up of the camp, parking around the perimeter of the camp can be used temporarily. Weekend parking will be aprx. 1/4 mile away, with shuttle service available, further information will be available at registration.

Tents

The lines will be laid to accommodate standard sized wedges with bells (aprx. 10ft.). It is expected that most participants will be using these standard size wedge tents unless they have received a commission. Please plan accordingly. Though there is adequate room to setup camp, an emphasis will be placed on proper camp layout with little room for excess large tentage.

As officers and NCOs are being assigned for this event, please note the following guideline:

- First Sergeants - Wedge (standard or large)
- Sub-altern - Wall
- Captain - Wall

Please pack so that all the tents that need to be together arrive together. We will not be holding tents space for units. We will work to keep everyone in a unit near each other but if you *need* to have 5 tents next to each other, then arrange for the tents to arrive together.

The kitchen flies will be set in a line coordinating with their respective battalions. Space for wedges to store provisions will be factored into one side of the fly row. We ask that these wedges to store provisions be equipped with a class A fire extinguisher in it.

Campaigner Camp

Campaigner impressions are encouraged, but please be aware that the site is bordered by a road and private land. As such, there is little available brush for cutting. It would be best to plan on bringing your own cut poles, etc, if desired. Due to site constraints the Campaigner Camp will be within the traditional camp. There may be opportunity for those interested to sleep along the redoubt line as an advance picquet, however fires will not be allowed in this area. Please see the QM upon arrival, and I will make every effort within the scope of the site to accommodate your needs.

Special Impression

If you have a special impression which you would like to include in camp, (surgeon, field tavern, forge, &c.) please contact the Quartermaster, Scott Jareo (978-452-4335), so that arrangements can be made ahead of time. We would like to accommodate a diverse cross section of activities to educate the public.

Fires

Please be advised that under no condition will any flame be permitted in tents or in the tent lines. Fires must be in the kitchen area and attended at all times. All fires must have a full bucket of water and a blanket next to it. We are also asking that every camp kitchen have a class A fire extinguisher in it.

It only takes one horror story about a fire at camp to be reminded how important it is to develop and maintain a comprehensive fire safety and prevention program in camp. Some prevention strategies include keeping a person at all camp fires, no open flames in tents, using battery-operated flashlights in tents, not using lanterns outside of tents, and possibly putting a smoke detector in tents that have large quantity of powder.

If we do have a fire, I ask that you do the following.

1. Yell Fire, numerous times to make people aware of the danger and make sure someone calls 911.
 2. Evacuate the area of people in neighboring tents and stay away from the fire so those with water and fire extinguishers can get to the fire.
 3. Drop the tent and the tents near the tent on fire.
- Officers and NCO – you are Officers and NCO for this entire event – not just on the battlefield. Take charge and command this situation, keep people away from the area. Set up a bucket brigade. And make sure that everyone is accounted for.

Security & Safety

It will be necessary for us to secure all personal and kitchen belongings, particularly during open camp hours. Camp guards are not being planned at this time, and event security and staff cannot be expected to be everywhere so we will have to help watch out for ourselves. Spectator and Participant Safety is everyone's responsibility. In addition, NCO and Officers, you have these ranks for the entire weekend – if something is amiss – you have the authority to show your leadership. The Continental Line Event Guidelines are posted on the event website and will be considered in effect for the weekend. Please be sure your unit members are familiar with these regulations.

Necessaries

The site will provide wood, water, straw and porto-loos.

Impression

It is the intention of the host units to provide the best possible atmosphere for living history. This atmosphere is created not only for the public but for the enjoyment of the participants as well. In order to put forth the best possible image we will be policing the camps prior to their opening to the public. Unit commanders should advise all members to comply with your QM's request regarding the following circumstances.

- No baled straw around camp as seats.
- Coolers to be kept out of sight -- preferably in tents.
- No beer bottles or modern containers in sight.
- No flags, signs or camp colors other than those designated by the Colonel.
- Keep excess camp furniture to a minimum.
- Use lantern posts only at night, stands to be removed during open camp hours.
- Keep company streets clean and clear.
- No discharge of firelocks in camp.

Problems

I hope that the communication at the event will flow both ways. We need to know what the shortcomings are so that they can be remedied. Please come to us with any issues regarding the port-a-johns, straw, wood, water, &c.

On behalf of the host unit and Quartermaster staff, thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Lt. Scott Jareo, Brigade Quartermaster

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