

Siege of Fort New Richmond

September 18-20, 2026

LSU Rural Life Museum

4560 Essen Ln

Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Event Guidelines

Updated Jul 22, 2026

By registering and participating in the *Siege of Fort New Richmond*, you agree to observe these event guidelines.

The LSU Rural Life Museum is entrusted with preserving Louisiana's cultural heritage for future generations, and all participants share in that responsibility. These regulations are intended to protect the museum's resources while ensuring the safety of participants and visitors.

Participation in this event and camping overnight is a privilege. Compliance with these regulations is required for all reenactors, staff, volunteers, and merchants. Museum staff retain the authority to interpret and enforce these regulations and to address any circumstances not specifically covered herein.

Registration

Pre-registration and approval are required for all reenactors and units wishing to participate. Unregistered or unapproved reenactors are not permitted to participate in the event. Please complete the Google Form linked below for yourself, or on behalf of a unit. You will receive an email after your registration has been reviewed.

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**](#)

Reenactors are expected to meet or exceed the [National Park Service Living History Standards](#), with some exceptions—see the *Clothing Standards* section for more details.

Clothing Standards

Photos of your impression are required as part of the registration process. In general, your impression should meet or exceed the guidelines outlined below. If any aspect does not yet meet these standards, we will be happy to provide constructive feedback and guidance.

- Reenactors must be clean shaven (max 3-day stubble).
- No officers should have a rank higher than Captain.
- Women portraying male soldiers must make an effort to hide their gender.
- Impressions are generally expected to meet or exceed the [National Park Service Living History Standards](#) for civilian and British regular army standards. Exceptions for some

materials (ie. cotton, cotton canvas) are permissible so long as the fabric mimics the look of period-correct natural fibers.

- For accoutrements, stainless steel is an acceptable alternative to tin canteens, cups, and bowls. We recommend that the stainless steel is tarnished or rubbed with steel wool to mimic the look of tinware.
- Uniforms must be properly cut in accordance with 18th century patterns. Footwear is restricted to approved period shoes. Non-period eyewear, wrist watches, sunglasses, and face or ear jewelry should be removed unless needed for medical purposes.
- All soldiers should strive to wear their uniforms in a military manner (fully buttoned, accoutrements high on the hip, etc.)
- Kilts, bagpipes, inappropriate furs, feathers, bandanas, straw hats, and other questionable attire are prohibited.
- Percussion rifles and Civil War era muskets are not acceptable.
- Reenactors must be wearing footwear at all times - bare feet are not allowed while on museum property. This rule is in place due to the many bees and sharp objects that are frequently on the grounds.

Arrival, Check-in & Set Up

- Upon arrival, reenactors will be directed to the quartermaster for their assigned camp - Spanish or British, as applicable.
- Camp set up will be between the hours of 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM on Friday, September 18. On Saturday, September 19th camp check-in hours are 5:00 – 8:00 AM and 5:00 – 9:00 PM. Registration check-in will remain open on Sunday for day trippers. See the *Reenactor Schedule* below.
- Vehicles are permitted within the event area only during designated load-in and load-out periods unless authorized by event staff.
- Participants arriving after public hours must notify event staff no less than 24 hours in advance.

Hours of Access

- We are open to the public from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm daily.
- You are welcome to tour the museum exhibits and grounds during the hours when we are open to the public. We ask you to confine yourself to the camps and surrounding area at other times. Touring the museum exhibits or Windrush Gardens 'after hours' is prohibited.

Practical Considerations

- Restrooms are in the LSU Rural Life Museum during public hours and designated times after-hours. There are portable toilets available as well.

- Potable water is available from spigots across the grounds, inside the LSU Rural Life Museum, and from water coolers that will be available at each campsite and locations on the grounds. Water locations are marked on your map.
- No pets or other animals are allowed on museum grounds.
- Participants are responsible for securing their own personal belongings. Do not leave valuables unattended. LSU Rural Life Museum is not responsible for lost or missing belongings.
- Report suspicious activity or emergencies immediately to museum and volunteer staff.
- Electricity is not guaranteed, but may be available in certain areas outdoors.

Food Services

- A public food tent will be open during museum hours which offers food and beverages for purchase. This is the only location where food will be sold to visitors.
- The historic outdoor kitchen will be used during public hours for living history cooking demonstrations. Food prepared in the outdoor kitchen is not for sale but may be enjoyed by volunteers, docents, and registered reenactors. Limited educational samples of period foods, such as pan perdu or hardtack, may be offered to visitors at the discretion of LSU RLM Docents.
- After-Hours: On Friday evening, the outdoor kitchen may be used by registered participants for meal preparation until 9:00 pm. On Saturday evening, dinner will be provided by the museum.

Code of Conduct

All participants are expected to conduct themselves in a safe, respectful, and professional manner. Be considerate of our family audience (e.g. no ribald humor or profanity during open hours). Please keep in mind:

- Quiet hours shall be observed from 10:00 PM until 6:00 AM.
- Museum staff have final authority regarding safety, site preservation, and participant conduct.

Camp Safety and Sanitation

- Campsites must be kept neat and orderly, with clear, unobstructed walkways at all times.
- Keep your campsite clean and leave the area in the same or better condition than you found it.
- Axes and hatchets (bladed tools) must not be left around campfires, wood piles, or walkway areas. They must be sheathed and put in a secure area such as a tent, vehicle, or chest.
- First aid kits are located at each camp site, inside the outdoor kitchen, the front desk of the museum, and inside the museum kitchen.

- All firearms, ammunition, and edged weapons not in direct control and possession of their owner shall be stored in a safe, secure manner that is inaccessible to unauthorized personnel. Firearms and blank ammunition shall be stored in separate locations.
- Each unit shall be responsible for safety and security within its own camp area.

Open-Flames

- Open flames are permitted only in approved locations established by museum staff.
- Braziers, torches, flame-lit lanterns, and other open-flame devices may not be used without prior approval from museum staff. Personal campfires are prohibited.
- All approved flames must be kept at least 5 feet from tent canvas, bedding, clothing, and other flammable materials. No flames are allowed inside or around historic structures or fencing.
- No fire, flame, or hot embers may be left unattended. All fires, flames, and embers must be fully extinguished before retiring for the night or leaving the site.
- A full bucket of water must be at each fire pit and approved location for open flames.

Firewood

- Firewood will be provided near your campsite. Please do not take firewood except from designated locations and do not cut or damage any standing timber or plants.
- Note: Every historic structure houses a fire extinguisher in case of emergency.
- Flames are not allowed under any circumstances when a burn ban is in effect.
- Firewood will be provided by the LSU Rural Life Museum.
- Participants may not bring firewood from outside locations. This helps prevent the spread of invasive insects and tree diseases.
- Please use firewood responsibly and return unused wood to designated woodpiles.

Black Powder

- No priming horns may be used.
- No live ammunition (ie. musket balls) may be brought to the event.
- Paper cartridges must contain no more than 100 grains of FF or Reenactor Grade black powder. The powder charge for your musket should be roughly equivalent to the caliber of your barrel, plus approx. 15 grains for the flash pan. Therefore, a 75-caliber Brown Bess would use 75 grains of FF powder + 15 grains for the flash pan = 90 grains in the paper cartridge.
- No loading directly from a powder horn, flask, or similar vessel directly into your barrel. Black powder MUST be pre-measured and loaded using paper cartridges.
- No black powder substitutes (such as Pyrodex, Triple Seven, etc.) are permitted. Smokeless powder is also prohibited.
- Cartridges must only be made of paper and can not be constructed using staples, ribbon, string, or tape.

Firearms

- Nobody under the age of 16 is permitted to hold, carry, or fire a musket, rifle, or any other type of flintlock. Anyone under the age of 18 must be assigned an experienced participant to oversee their actions, and their parent or authorized guardian must sign the form provided at check-in.
- Firearms may **ONLY** be discharged at times and places designated by the Event Safety Officer. Random firing or firing demonstrations are prohibited. There shall be no gunfire in camps.
- Demonstrations shall take place in a controlled situation and area that isolates and protects all participants and spectators.
- **ONLY** weapons and cartridges inspected and passed by the Event Safety Officer or designee may be fired.
- All weapons, both edged and firearms, shall be used and stored in a safe and deliberate manner at all times.
- For the safety of all, obey the commands of your unit's officers, volunteer staff, and LSU Rural Life Museum staff.

Smoking and Vaping

- Smoking, vaping, and the use of all tobacco products on LSU campuses is prohibited. This prohibition applies to all individuals while on the LSU campus, including faculty, staff, students, administrators, contractors, and visitors.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited near all historic structures on museum property. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from the site.

Use of LSU Rural Life Museum Equipment and Property

- Historic structures (Dogtrot House, Blacksmith Shop, Pioneer Cabin, etc.) are not to be used as sleeping quarters. However, exceptions may apply on the porches when unforeseen weather occurs. All sleeping gear must be removed from the building during hours of operation.

Reenactor Schedule

Friday, September 18

Time	Activity
10:00 AM to 9:00 AM	Reenactor Check-in / Camp Setup is Available
10:00 PM to 6:00 AM	Quiet Hours

Saturday, September 19

Time	Activity
8:00 AM	Site Opens to the Public
9:00 AM	Officer's Call
9:30 AM	Infantry & Artillery Drill
11:30 AM	Presentation: The Baton Rouge Campaign (1779)
12:00 PM	Infantry Exhibition: Drill & Demonstration
1:00 PM	Artillery Exhibition: Drill & Demonstration
1:30 PM	Reenactors Assemble for Battle (Formation, Safety Inspections, etc.)
1:45 PM	Battle Prelude Narration
2:00-2:45 PM	SIEGE OF FORT NEW RICHMOND REENACTMENT
2:45-3:00 PM	Post-Battle Conclusion
3:00 PM	Reenactors Return to Campsites
10:00 PM to 6:00 AM	Quiet Hours

Sunday, September 20

Time	Activity
8:00 AM	Site Opens to the Public
9:00 AM	Officer's Call
11:00 AM	Infantry Exhibition: Drill & Demonstration
11:30 AM	Artillery Exhibition: Drill & Demonstration
12:00 PM	Reenactors Assemble for Battle (Formation, Safety Inspections, etc.)
12:15 AM	Battle Prelude Narration
12:30-1:00 PM	WEST FLORIDA SKIRMISH
2:00 PM	End of Event

Please note: This schedule is tentative and may be adjusted due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

Reenactment Rules

General Guidelines

- Ramrods will not be used during the reenactments.
- In any mock battle, only powder shall be placed in firearms: no paper or wadding.
- Do not fire or point your weapon into camps or towards spectators.
- Do not fire weapons next to or near anyone's head or face.
- No person entering a battlefield area or carrying any type of weapon shall be under the age of 16 (see *Firearms Policy*).
- Participants 16-18 years of age must have a parent or guardian present. Event organizers and guardians must have been given a release form by parents of the minor authorizing them to make medical decisions in the event of an accident.
 - Participants 16-18 can carry a weapon without ammunition.
 - Age verification must be done prior to the start of the reenactment walkthrough.
- Reenactors not associated with a unit will be attached to a larger unit during a public battle. Freelancing will not be allowed.
- For both accuracy and fire safety reasons, garments made of all natural fibers are required.

Alcohol and Controlled Substances

- No excessive consumption of alcohol beverages and consumption of alcoholic beverages during operating hours is prohibited.
- Anyone acting in an unsafe, disorderly, or uncooperative manner will immediately be asked to leave and/or face legal charges.
- Possession or use of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.
- **LSU Rural Life Museum has a zero-tolerance policy regarding underage drinking. It is the unit commanders' responsibility to monitor their unit to guarantee compliance with policy.**
- **Failure to adhere to these rules may result in immediate expulsion from the premises and/or arrest. Any volunteer or staff member found or suspected of consuming alcohol before or during any weapons demonstration or during visitor hours will not be allowed to participate and will be asked to leave.**

Minors

- Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or designated responsible adult **at all times**.
- Parents and guardians are responsible for the supervision and conduct of minors at all times.

Preservation of Museum Property

Please respect all museum buildings, fences, landscaping, artifacts, and natural features. Do not touch, sit on, or climb artifacts or enter historic buildings without staff or museum docent approval.

Participants shall not:

- Dig trenches or holes
- Cut, trim, or damage trees or vegetation
- Drive nails screws, hooks, or other fasteners into trees, historic structures, or fences
- Attach anything to buildings, historic structures, historic fences, or trees.
- Remove natural or historic materials from museum property
- Move artifacts or other museum property from its original location
- Enter historic buildings or cross barricades without being accompanied by museum staff or a lead museum docent.

Leave No Trace

Participants are expected to practice responsible stewardship throughout the event.

- Pack out or properly dispose of all trash. All trash must be deposited in the dumpster or designated area at the end of the event.
- Remove all tent stakes, rope, debris, and personal equipment before departure.
- Grey water, grease, and food waste shall be disposed of only in locations designated by museum staff. Refer to your map or museum and volunteer staff for questions. Buckets will be provided for ash collection.

Emergency Procedures

- In case of fire or medical emergencies, call 911.
- In the event of severe weather or another emergency, participants must immediately follow directions from museum staff and event organizers.
- Roads, pathways, and doors must always remain clear.
- For non-emergency concerns after hours, contact the Security officer in person or at (225) 765-2437.

Important Contacts

Questions, comments, or concerns? Please contact us.

LSU Rural Life Museum

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