



NEWS

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History Adventures Week at Pennypacker Mills

Tuesday, August 16th through Friday, August 19th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm daily

Schwenksville, PA (August 8, 2016) – With horses, supply wagons, and cannons, General Washington and his 8,000 troops arrived at the Pennypacker farm to encamp in the fall of 1777. How did Governor Pennypacker's ancestors respond to such a huge invasion of their farm? Find out the answers to these questions and more at History Adventures Week at Pennypacker Mills. Explore the Revolutionary War and life in the 18th century Tuesday, August 16th through Friday, August 19th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm daily. History Adventures is a free program designed for children ages five and older, accompanied by an adult.

Each day, participants will explore a different aspect of this time period including games, crafts, a scavenger hunt, and mansion tours:

- A Revolutionary War soldier will be on hand one day to talk about life as a soldier. He'll discuss what he carried in his haversack, and he'll show kids how he fired his musket. Kids will become soldiers that day and learn to march and drill too.
- Stop by the mansion each day as staff members share the story of the encampment using artifacts to bring the story to life. Take a tour of the mansion and learn about Samuel Pennypacker, Governor of Pennsylvania from 1903-1907, and his love of history.
- Explore how people used herbs and plants to cure all kinds of ailments. See an antique apothecary kit and find out what herbs were used to cure common illnesses. Explore more in the Children's Garden and make a sachet!
- See an artificer (skilled craftsman) display with a shaving horse, whetstone, and other tools of the time. Find out how these tools were used to make much needed everyday items.
- Open hearth cooking was the common method of cooking food by soldiers and civilians. See how wooden bowls, crocks for storing food, iron pots with coals above and below for heating,

and spits for roasting meats were used. Discover the dangers of cooking over an open flame as the Pennypacker Mills cook demonstrates the cooking techniques of the time.

- Hear “George Washington and the General’s Dog,” a true story that happened at Pennypacker Mills during the encampment in 1777. Discover how a dog lost during the Battle of Germantown found its way to Pennypacker Mills. Whose dog was it? How did it find its master? Guests will be surprised to find out what happens in this little-known, true story about America’s first President and where it all took place!

Plan to spend an afternoon at Pennypacker Mills as life in 1777 comes to life today! Should it rain, some activities may be curtailed, however, the event will be held rain or shine. Different activities will occur each day.

Please note that the Route 73 Bridge over the Perkiomen Creek near the site entrance is closed. There is a short detour to reach the site; please follow the signs.

Pennypacker Mills is open year-round for guided tours, seasonal events, educational programs, and changing exhibits.

The site is operated by the Montgomery County Division of Parks, Trails, and Historic Sites, and is located at 5 Haldeman Road in Schwenksville, PA.

For more information, please call 610-287-9349 or visit Pennypacker Mills online at www.montcopa.org/pennypackermills. Like Pennypacker Mills on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pennypackermills.