

Introduction

Interpretation is the primary function and justification for all living history activities at the National D-Day Memorial. As a monument created to preserve the legacy and lessons of D-Day, living history should only be used to complement this educational mission during special programming and events on the monument's grounds. The following rules and regulations are enforced to ensure a valuable, accurate, and safe public interpretation for the living historians, the National D-Day Memorial, and visitors.

Rules and Regulations

Historical Authenticity

I. Types of Interpretation

- a. In the vast majority of cases, third person interpretation is the most comfortable and effective form of interpretation for the visitor during programs and events at the National D-Day Memorial.
- b. First person scenarios and vignettes may be used only with prior permission from the National D-Day Memorial staff member who is the program or event point of contact.
- c. If first person interpretation is used, a third person introduction or conclusion is required to help visitors understand the context of the impression.

II. Interpreter Appearance

- a. Uniforms and equipment must represent the World War II time period.
- b. If at all possible, living history units should attempt a 1944 appearance for programs and events at the National D-Day Memorial unless otherwise directed by the Associate Director for Programming and Events.
- c. Only period appropriate shoes, black or dark brown in color, will be permitted.
- d. No tennis shoes, rubber boots, cowboy hats, or any non-period clothing is permitted.

III. Camp Appearance

- a. No non-period or civilian weapons
- b. No modern electrified lighting devices, unless it is a night-time event or program with the permission of the staff point-of-contact
- c. No coolers or modern food or beverage containers, including but not limited to aluminum cans, soda bottles, plastic jugs, cardboard boxes, fast food containers, cellophane, vinyl wrappers, or bags.
- d. Camps must be neat and well organized with clear walkways through and around the camps.
- e. Open fires are not permitted.
- f. Period style candle, gas, kerosene or other lamps may be used but they must completely enclose the flame on four sides with glass or other flame-resistant materials to prevent the flame from having contact with tents or other materials.
- g. All lanterns should be placed at a safe distance from flammable articles, such as tents and clothing.
- h. When using lanterns, an extinguisher must be on hand at all times.

- i. Camp stoves must always be attended by an alert adult that will keep spectators a safe distance from the fires.
- j. Electrical needs are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Associate Director for Programming and Events.

Demonstrations

I. Educational Nature

- a. All living history activities, including but not limited to close order drill, adjutant's call, mail call, roll call, disciplinary actions and punishments, inspections, ration distribution, assault boat demonstrations, and weapons drill must be interpreted to the public while the activity is being conducted.
- b. The interpretation must identify the activity and how the activity relates to D-Day or World War II.

II. Weapons

- a. Absolutely no live or blank ammunition will be brought onto the grounds of the National D-Day Memorial. Only dummy ammunition is acceptable for living history displays and demonstrations.
- b. Affixed bayonets are prohibited at all times.
- c. The use of flares or explosives is strictly forbidden. Only dummy explosives are allowed at the National D-Day Memorial.
- d. Absolutely no ignitable devices are allowed.
- e. Knives should not be unsheathed or stuck in the ground at any time.
- f. All firearms, dummy ammunition, and edged weapons not in the direct control and possession of their owner shall be stored in a safe, secure manner that is inaccessible to unauthorized personnel.

III. Public Interaction with Weapons

- a. Visitors are not to handle edged weapons or shoulder-arms with bayonets fixed under any circumstance.
- b. Visitors may handle unloaded shoulder arms provided a member of the living history unit retains physical control of the firearm, especially the direction of the weapon.
- c. Weapons are never to be aimed or pointed in the direction of another person.
- d. Mock hand to hand combat is forbidden.

Professionalism and Decorum

I. Interactions with Visitors

- a. Visitors should be recognized and greeted in a friendly and courteous manner.
- b. At no time should a visitor be ignored or subjected to abusive, derogatory, or profane language.
- c. Refrain from presenting personal opinions, including but not limited to political, moral, or religious views.
- d. All motor vehicles participating in the display or demonstrations of a living history unit must be driven by a licensed driver in a sensible manner and obey all traffic laws. The general public is not allowed to ride in or drive these vehicles under any circumstance.

Safety

I. Overnight Stays/Camping

- a. Living history units are strongly encouraged to secure off site lodging when participating in National D-Day Memorial events.
- b. The only units who will be granted permission to stay overnight at the Memorial are those who agree to remain in character for the duration of their visit, i.e. no civilian clothing and sleeping within the encampment. This may include participation in roll calls, briefings, etc.
- c. No RVs are allowed.
- d. Curfew is enforced by staff members and security guards. There is a one-time in and out policy in effect between 5PM and 9AM.
- e. If a staff member finds a living history unit to be in violation of these overnight rules or any of the other rules and guidelines, they will be removed from the premises, will not be allowed to stay overnight at the Memorial, and invitations to future events and programs may be revoked.
- f. If you are traveling from outside of Central Virginia, the Bedford Welcome Center provides a list of area hotels, beds and breakfasts, and campgrounds at <http://visitbedford.com/where-to-stay/>.

II. Unit Members and Safety

- a. No person under the age of 18 is permitted to participate with a living history unit's display or demonstration.
- b. All units should keep a list of members who are medically trained, such as EMTs, paramedics, nurses, doctors, and CPR/First Aid/AED certifications.
- c. If possible, all first aid should be given by a medically trained person.
- d. Each unit should have a list of members who have illnesses and a list of member's medications and allergies for use by emergency personnel.

III. Safety Officers and Inspections

- a. Prior to the start of each event season, the Unit's POC must schedule an either in-person, phone call, or Skype meeting to review safety protocol with the Associate Director for Programming and Events.
- b. All events and programs held at the National D-Day Memorial will have a Safety Officer, (a designated Memorial staff member or volunteer) present who will inspect each display and has the authority to dismiss units from participation in the event or program if their equipment, demonstration(s), or display is deemed unsafe.
- c. The inspection by the Safety Officer will occur prior to the start of the event or program.

IV. Liability Insurance and Resources

- a. Units are highly encouraged to seek out liability insurance for their own unit members, either independently or through the Living History Association.
- b. The Living History Association's website, <http://www.livinghistoryassn.org/>, provides resources for living history units on scheduling, benefits of liability insurance, authenticity and safety guidelines, and more.

Memorial Regulations

- I. No alcoholic beverages are to be possessed or consumed while on the grounds of the Memorial. Violation will result in immediate removal from the site.
- II. Smoking is prohibited in tents and is not allowed within the monument grounds. The designated smoking area is on the outer perimeter of the parking lot.
- III. Please properly dispose of cigarette butts. Do not discard them on the lawn, sidewalks, or parking lot.
- IV. Animals and pets are not allowed in encampments or on the monument grounds unless they are service animals.
- V. The use of drone aircraft on or over Memorial property is prohibited.
- VI. It is the responsibility of the living history unit to understand and obey all federal and state laws, and local ordinances not specifically mentioned at all times.

Rules and Regulations Agreement

On behalf of the living history unit that I lead, I have read and agree to abide by the rules and regulations listed above and will work with event organizers to make the events and programs we participate in at the National D-Day Memorial successful for all participants and spectators. As the contact for my unit, I will ensure my unit's adherence to the safety standards outlined above. If I am unable to attend a program or event, I will designate another unit member to ensure safety standard adherence by the unit and will provide that program or event's point of contact with his or her contact information in advance. I understand that failure to abide by the rules and regulations outlined above will result in ejection from the event or program I am participating and result in the revocation of invitations to participate in future events and programs.

In no way will I, or any member of my living history unit, hold the National D-Day Memorial, National D-Day Memorial Foundation, any person, staff member, volunteer, donor, or sponsor responsible for any injury, damage, or loss that may occur to myself, personal property, or property of another in my possession during my visit and participation in the Memorial's programs and events.

Signature of Contact	Date
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Contact Name: _____

Unit Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____