



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Washita Battlefield
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Washita Battlefield NHS News Release

For Immediate Release

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Digital Learning Day and Good Deeds Day, Saturday, March 14

CHEYENNE, Oklahoma: On Saturday, March 14, 2015, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site invites the public to participate in two special activities, Digital Learning Day and Good Deeds Day.

Digital Learning Day emphasizes the effective use of technology to strengthen a learning experience. We are seeking visitors to walk the Battlefield Trail and use their smart phones and tablets to access and test a new digital app to listen to the park's audio tour. Through the new app platform, we hope to connect better to its users and share the significant events that occurred here many years ago.

After leisurely walking the self-guided trail and listening to the interpretive stops, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site staff would like to hear from participants. Using technology to increase effective communications and operations, staff launched two digital forms, the *Visitor Comment Form*, and the *My Opinion on the Battle* form. The *Visitor Comment Form* allows visitors to make suggestions, compliments, or voice concerns about park facilities, trails, tours, and staff. For example, park managers would like to know your thoughts about the new digital app, the content of the audio tour, and any issues with the trail and overlook area. The *My Opinion on the Battle* form provides an opportunity for visitors to express their perspective on the battle and what it means to them. The digital forms are a new way for the park to listen to and help make the park a better place for visitors and the community.

These two forms, plus the new digital app, will be accessible beyond Saturday, March 14, and not just within park boundaries. In fact, if you are unable to walk the trail this weekend, but still would like to listen to the audio tour, make a comment, or provide your perspective, you can do so from the comfort of your own home. Just scan the corresponding QR codes with your digital devices or visit waba.toursphere.com (Audio Tour) or www.nps.gov/waba/contactus (Digital Forms).

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Visitor Comment Form



My Opinion on the Battle



Audio Tour



Good Deeds Day is an annual celebration of good deeds. In honor of Good Deeds Day, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site staff request volunteers to help clean up trash around the visitor center, overlook parking area, and Hwy 47A. Afterwards, a Ranger will present a program discussing the good deed of a 7th U.S. Cavalry soldier towards the Cheyenne women Moving Behind and Cornstalk.

Not only will visitors learn about the history of the battle, share their thoughts through digital devices, and cleanup the neighborhood, there will be good opportunities to see wildlife. As witnessed in February during the Great Backyard Bird Count, many birds are returning or migrating through and can be observed within the park. Plus, the seasonal changes of spring will make the trail a great place to enjoy the solitude of a natural setting. Throughout the day, Park Rangers will be walking the trail to assist visitors and be available for questions and conversation.

WHAT: Digital Learning Day-using digital devices to access the new digital app for the Battlefield Trail audio tour and provide comments through two new digital comment forms; Good Deeds Day-collect trash along Hwy 47A and around park facilities, plus a Ranger presentation.

WHEN: Saturday, March 14, 2015, Digital Learning Day-all day; Good Deeds Day-9:00a-12:00p with the Ranger presentation at 12:00p

WHERE: Digital Learning Day-Battlefield Trail, 1.5 miles round trip, located a ½ mile west of the visitor center on Hwy 47A; Good Deeds Day-meet at the visitor center at 9:00a

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Washita Battlefield National Historic Site protects, preserves, and interprets the cultural and natural resources of the site along the Washita River where Lt. Col. George A. Custer led the 7th U.S. Cavalry on a surprise dawn attack against the Southern Cheyenne village of Peace Chief Black Kettle on November 27, 1868.