

SCENARIO GUIDELINES FOR TAPS 150

The goal of military reenactors at this event will be to faithfully portray the 83rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry during their stay at Harrison's Landing in July and August of 1862. Every one of you will have the special privilege of experiencing a little of what they experienced on this very site 150 years ago.

We will go live at 7 PM Friday night, June 22; at that point you're in the Federal army. Officers will be responsible for giving appropriate orders, noncoms for overseeing the work, and privates for getting the work done.

Period rations will be issued on duplicate provision returns and wood on the appropriate requisition. You will sleep on the ground in dog tents and some of you will have to fall in for guard mount, which will begin Friday evening and continue through Sunday morning (we'll limit the number of posts and so arrange the schedule that no one will be impaired for the drive home).

In addition to guard mount there will be fatigue details to get water, cook, police the campsite, and the like. We will also have several dress parades according to the schedule. For these you'll be expected to show up with shined brass, blackened leathers, and clean weapons.

But it won't all be work. We'll have a number of activities representing day to day camp life, including a few or all of the following: sick call, mail call (including boxes from home), auctions of the effects of the deceased, boards of survey to determine responsibility for missing or marred equipment, and encounters with local civilians.

You'll also have down time in which to chat with your comrades, play cards, visit the neighboring mansion (though you'll need a pass for that), and simply listen during the day to concerts from modern and period bands.

Speaking of music, you can expect to hear the full range of camp calls on the bugle. If you don't already know them, this will provide a great way to learn. Plus there will be two opportunities of skirmishing by the Bugle so it will be a good idea to familiarize yourself with the calls.

We encourage first person and will provide background information to you in advance on the 83rd, including where they came from and what they went through before they got to Harrison's Landing. Modern visitors will come through camp during the day and both period and modern bands will play, but we'll try to stay in 1862.

We have the honor of portraying one of the hardest fighting regiments of the Civil War, and of contributing to the experience of those coming to celebrate the birth of Taps where it actually occurred. It will be a great experience, and great fun.

Thanks for joining us for this historic weekend!