



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Pittsburgh District

News Release

Public Affairs Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Army Corps seeks volunteers to restore America's public lands

Registration is underway for National Public Lands Day, September 27, 2008

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 8, 2008 – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is seeking volunteers to help restore our region's public recreation areas.

Several Pittsburgh District parks will contribute to the National Public Lands Day goal of planting 1 million trees in 2008. Other events include trail restoration, litter removal and invasive species removal.

The national goal is to increase from last year's 110,000 volunteers by at least an additional 10,000 participants this year. Every 100,000 volunteers who participate in National Public Lands Day represent an additional \$1.8 million worth of labor for American lands. The estimated dollar value of volunteer time is \$18.77 per hour for 2006, based on data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics and Independent Sector.

Benefits for participating in National Public Lands Day are endless and include:

- **Preserving American Lands:** One third of America's land belongs to the public, and may be used for everything from recreation and relaxing to logging and mining for natural resources. National Public Lands Day is a yearly chance for Americans to take ownership of these lands, which are constantly threatened by human causes such as deforestation and pollutants and natural causes like disasters and erosion.
- **Building Cleaner and Safer Communities:** Neighborhood cleanups around National Public Lands Day, not only makes the surrounding areas look nicer, but participants can get a greater sense of belonging by helping to make their community healthier, safer, and prettier. Students and adults can enhance their resume and make important networking contacts while gaining valuable experience as well.
- **Experiencing Nature:** Families can tour national parks and many state parks for free on this date, and learn about wildlife habitats while working to benefit them. It is an opportunity to enjoy nature, exercise, and make a positive difference in the environment.

National Public Lands Day is organized by the National Education Environmental Foundation, this year in partnership with the Invasive Species Council. Those interested in organizing a project or volunteering should visit www.publiclandsday.org. The website offers tips for site organizers and more information for the news media.

Below is a list of local events:

Berlin Lake

Trail restoration, campsite renovation, tree planting, painting and shoreline cleanup.

Contact: Julie Stone

Phone: (330) 547-3781

Location: 7400 Bedell Rd., Berlin Center, Ohio 44401

On the Web: www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/berlin.htm

Crooked Creek Lake

Equestrian trail and hiking trail restoration and planting trees.

Contact: Melissa L. Salsgiver

Phone: (724) 763-3161

Location: 114 Park Main Rd., Ford City, Pa. 16226

Kinzua Dam

Removing invasive plant species and planting dogwood trees.

Contact: Bob Hoskin

Phone: (814) 726-0661

Location: State Route 59 (1205 Kinzua Rd.), Warren, Pa. 16365

Loyalhanna Lake/ Sanderson Access

Clean-up litter, post signs, invasive plant species removal, enhancing parking lot and access areas.

Contact: April Hawkey

Phone: (724) 639-9013

Location: McFarland Rd., Latrobe, Pa. 15610

Mahoning Creek Lake

Litter clean-up, removing invasive plant species, hiking trail restoration, planting trees seedlings, and painting parking lots.

Contact: Grover Pegg

Phone: (814) 257-8811

Location: 145 Dam Site Rd., New Bethlehem, Pa. 16242

Michael J. Kirwan Dam & Reservoir

Planting trees and trail restoration.

Contact: Dianne P. Ruskiewicz

Phone: (330) 358-2370

Location: 8657 Kestrel Way, Way, Ohio 44286

Mosquito Creek Lake

Trail restoration, shoreline erosion prevention, tree planting, owl roost construction.

Contact: Joe Arnett

Phone: (330) 637-1961

Location: 2961 Warren Meadville Rd., Cortland, Ohio 44410

Shenango Lake

Litter and trash removal, trail restoration, tree planting and enhancing wildlife habitat.

Contact: Richard Egger

Phone: (724) 646-1124

Location: 2442 Kelly Rd., Hermitage, Pa. 16148

Stonewall Jackson Lake

Trail restoration and tree planing.

Contact: Jeff Toler

Phone: (304) 269-4588

Location: 1012 Skin Creek Rd., Weston, WV. 26452

Tionesta Lake

Painting buildings, trail restoration, tree planting, and litter removal.

Contact: Jason Quinn

Phone: (814) 755-3512

Location: 1 mile South of Tionesta on Route 36, Tionesta, Pa. 16353

Tygart Lake

Trail restoration along the wooddog trail including: implementing water breaks, trimming limbs

Contact: Cory Walker

Phone: (304) 265-1760

Location: Route 1 Box 257, Grafton, WV. 26354

On the Web: www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/tygartla.htm

Woodcock Creek Lake

Clean up of shoreline and recreation areas.

Contact: Doug Krider

Phone: (814) 763-4422

Location: 22079 St. Hwy. 198, Saegertown, Pa. 16433

Youghiogheny Lake

Clean up of recreation areas

Contact: Brian Luprek

Phone: (814) 395-3242

Location: 497 Flanigan Rd., Confluence, Pa. 15424

Web: www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/youghiog.htm