



National Park Service  
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the Interior**

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## National Park Service News Release

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### National Public Lands Day - September 27<sup>th</sup> Newly Naturalized Citizens Day – September 28<sup>th</sup>

[National Public Lands Day](#), which this year will be held on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. There will be no entrance fees on September 27 to celebrate National Public Lands Day and on September 28 to honor the country's newest citizens.

National Public Lands Day began in 1994 with three federal agencies and 700 volunteers. Last year, nearly 110,000 volunteers worked in 1,300 locations and in every state. Now, in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, 8 federal agencies and many state and local lands participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands.

National Public Lands Day keeps the promise of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the "tree army" that worked from 1933 to 1942 to preserve and protect America's natural heritage. This annual event:

- Educates Americans about critical environmental and natural resources issues and the need for shared stewardship of these valued, irreplaceable lands;
- Builds partnerships between the public sector and the local community based upon mutual interests in the enhancement and restoration of America's public lands;
- Improves public lands for outdoor recreation, with volunteers assisting land managers in hands-on work.

All National Park Service sites will waive entrance fees on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Other federal agencies also allowing free admission that day include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Forest Service. This is the only day that entrance fees are waived systematically on public lands throughout the country.