



News Release

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DETROIT RIVER INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE IS PART OF NATIONWIDE EFFORT TO IMPROVE NATIONAL LANDS IN HONOR OF THE 75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

Trenton, MI – The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge will be working on the Humbug Marsh trail system as local area residents join the largest annual coast-to-coast, single-day volunteer restoration effort for America's public lands.

Local volunteers will roll up their sleeves and devote their day to resurfacing trails at the Humbug Marsh Unit as part of the 15th annual National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on Saturday, September 27. Sponsored for the ninth consecutive year by Toyota Motor Sales, USA, these national cleanups give Americans an annual chance to make public lands in local communities safer, prettier, and more desirable.

"Last year we reached a monumental participation of 110,000 volunteers in National Public Lands Day, and we are expecting to increase this by an additional 10,000 this year," said Robb Hampton, director of National Public Lands Day.

This year, National Public Lands Day will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps. By educating volunteers at sites across the country, NPLD maintains the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps, an army of three million Americans who in the 1930s countered the devastation of the Dust Bowl and the American chestnut blight by planting more than three billion trees, building 800 state parks, and fighting forest fires.

For the fifth year in a row, volunteers who work at a site managed by any of five federal agencies will be rewarded with a pass good for free entry any day during the next year at public land sites managed by those agencies: National Park Service, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

For more information, contact Kristi Thiel at 734 692-7649 or see a list of NPLD sites, activities, contacts, and downloadable photos from past events in the Media Center section of www.publiclandsday.org . For more information on the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge visit www.fws.gov/midwest/detroitriver .

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