Pledge of Cooperation by the

National Recreation and Park Association
National Association of State Park Directors
National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials
National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers
North American Association of Environmental Education
City Park Alliance

In Support of the "Get Outdoors, It's Yours!" Initiative
of the
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Reclamation
National Park Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Geological Survey

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the National Association of State Parks Directors (NASPD), the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO), the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers (NASORLO), the North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) and the City Park Alliance (CPA) pledge their support of the Federal Agency partnership, *Get Outdoors, It's Yours!*

The Get Outdoors, It's Yours," initiative is a national campaign jointly developed by the Departments of Agriculture, the Army, and the Interior through their respective public land-management agencies that is designed to raise awareness of the opportunities for America's youth to connect with the outdoors and reengage with nature. The goal of this interagency and partnership initiative is to encourage children and their families to spend more time participating in outdoor recreation, environmental education, and natural resource stewardship activities. The added benefit will be growing a generation of stewards who, through their connections with nature, are more psychologically and physically fit.

The undersigned organizations pledging cooperation share the goal of the *Get Outdoors, It's Yours*" campaign to "engage our children and families with the natural world and more effectively expand and promote public outdoor opportunities such as recreation, conservation education and volunteerism by providing the landscape for children to discover and witness the wonder of nature." Children's inability to connect with nature has been recognized as a

national issue of concern that is impacting their psychological and physical health.

Therefore, as stated in the *Get Outdoors, It's Yours* interagency Pledge of Cooperation, and in recognition of the collective commitment of the federal agencies of the *Get Outdoors, It's Yours* partnership, we pledge

To join "with State and local government agencies to expand and create new partnerships for increasing the public's appreciation and use of their public outdoor spaces;

To engage in Promoting and expanding opportunities for America's children and families to engage in natural and cultural history and environmental education, outdoor recreation....and stewardship activities on public lands and waters;"

To encourage more outdoors activities for the renewed psychological and physical health of our future stewards and

To work toward "Expanding our network of partnerships within the government and with non-governmental organizations...to assist in creating a sustainable long-term initiative to connect children and families with the outdoors.

Signed, on October 14th, 2008 at the National Park and Recreation Association National Congress and Exposition on Parks and Recreation, Baltimore, MD,



NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Barbara Tulipane CEO





OFFICIALS

Greg Butts President



Catherine Nagel Executive Director