



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New Orleans District

# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Saucier, 504-862-2525  
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## Volunteers to help clean up La. public lands

*At Bonnet Carré, Atchafalaya, Old River and Bayou Bodcau on Sept. 20*

NEW ORLEANS – Volunteers are invited to improve public lands at four locations in Louisiana Sept. 20 as part of National Public Lands Day, co-sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Toyota Motor Sales USA. The locations are:

**Bonnet Carré Spillway**, Norco. Volunteers will collect trash on the new mountain bike and multi-use trail. Meet at 8 a.m. at the trailhead near the Bonnet Carré boat launch and pavilion. Contact: Corps Park Ranger Greg Malon, 985-764-0126.

**Atchafalaya Basin**, near Krotz Springs. Volunteers will collect trash by boat from Bayou Fordoche and Lake Henderson. Corps of Engineers boats and vehicles will haul the trash to dumpsters. Meet at 8 a.m. at the Courtableau Structure near Krotz Springs. Contact: Corps Park Ranger Dan Sammon, 337-585-0853.

**Old River Lock**, near Lettsworth. Volunteers will plant fall wildlife-forage plots and do the annual cleaning of wood duck boxes. Meet at 8 a.m. on La. 15 at the camping and parking area on the north side of the lock. Contact: Corps Natural Resources Manager Michael Saucier, 504-862-2525.

**Bayou Bodcau**, near Haughton. Volunteers will improve the nature trail, build a footbridge, clean up, place benches and upgrade cooking sites. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the pavilion at Tom Merrill Recreation Area. Contact: Randall Bordelon, 318-949-1804, extension 104.

Trash bags, gloves, and refreshments will be provided as appropriate. For information on the Corps recreation program, visit [www.mvn.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil) and click on Recreation, Recreation Sites. For information on National Public Lands Day, activities, contacts, and downloadable photos from past events see [www.npld.com](http://www.npld.com).

National Public Lands Day is America's largest annual grassroots volunteer event, with more than 500 events planned this year. The 10<sup>th</sup> annual national clean-up once again

gives volunteers an opportunity to lend a hand to improve and preserve our public natural resources: national parks, monuments, wildlife refuges, forests, grasslands, marine sanctuaries, lakes and reservoirs belonging to all citizens.

Last year, 70,000 volunteers took part nationally. They planted 11,000 trees, shrubs and flowers, collected 700 tons of trash, built or refurbished 78 miles of trail, and installed or painted 400 bird houses. In all, more than \$8 million in real work was finished.

The Corps is one of the nation's largest providers of outdoor recreation, operating more than 2,500 recreation areas at 456 projects, mostly lakes, and leasing an additional 1,800 sites to state or local park and recreation authorities or private interests. The Corps hosts about 375 million visits each year at its lakes, beaches and other areas, and estimates that 25 million Americans visit a Corps project at least once a year for recreation.