

News Release



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Roseburg District Office
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US Department of Agriculture
Forest Service



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Backyard Archeology Project and Other Events Planned on National Public Lands Day, September 30

Roseburg, OR – September 5, 2006 -- Every fall the general public joins with federal agencies and private organizations to celebrate National Public Lands Day. The Bureau of Land Management's Roseburg District and the Umpqua National Forest will participate in the 13th Annual National Public Lands Day on September 30, and they need your help. This nationwide event, sponsored for the eighth consecutive year by Toyota, is a day when community-minded individuals, family and groups of all ages volunteer to give back to the public lands where they hike, bike, climb, swim, picnic or just plain relax.

At a **Backyard Archeology Project**, volunteers will assist BLM and Forest Service archeologists in screening soil removed from an archeology site near Colliding Rivers in Glide. Their objectives will be to recover artifacts, including bone and stone tools. There will also be a display of artifacts along with lessons in atlatl (spear) throwing. This project, occurring at the BLM office at 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., will start at **10 a.m.** and ends at **3 p.m.** Sack lunches will be provided. To help, call Isaac Barner at (541) 464-3293.

As part of fall volunteer program efforts, the BLM will also be a partner on the **23rd annual Umpqua Basin River Cleanup Day**, which will take place on September 23rd, the Saturday before National Public Lands Day. The Umpqua River Cleanup Committee organizes crews to clean up various Douglas County stream segments. Other partners include SOLV, Umpqua Watersheds, and the Forest Service. To help with river cleanup, call Bob Hoehne at (541) 679-7077. Volunteers can pick what areas they would like to work in, and they will be fully briefed regarding potential safety hazards before starting a cleanup.

Forest Service officials invite outdoor enthusiasts, families and individuals to celebrate National Public Lands Day by picking up litter along the 440 miles of hiking trails on the Umpqua National Forest in Douglas and Lane counties. Fees at the five trailheads, three boating sites and one picnic area will be waived for September 30 as people enjoy the sites on September 30th.

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Past National Public Lands Day events in Douglas County have attracted many volunteers and accomplished projects throughout the County valued at over \$1.2 million. "Many of the projects

would not be completed without the aid of dedicated volunteers who turn out on National Public Lands Day. Volunteers are among our most respected and valued resources”, stated Jay Carlson, BLM’s Roseburg District Manager. “They pitch in and help whenever and wherever there’s a need. They bring enthusiasm and experience to the jobs. Volunteers are often inspirational role models who demonstrate that citizens can make a difference.”

Again this year, volunteers who work at a site managed by any of five federal agencies (Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service or Forest Service) will be rewarded with a free entry day during the next year at any public land site managed by those agencies. Volunteers at the BLM’s Backyard Archeology Project will also receive National Public Lands Day T-shirts.

So roll up your sleeves and give a little back to your public lands. Any tools, safety equipment, or materials needed for the projects will be furnished by the BLM.

For other information or see a list of National Public Lands Day sites, activities, contacts, and downloadable photos from past events go to www.npld.com, or call 1-800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337). Volunteer opportunities nationwide are also listed on-line at <http://www.volunteer.gov/gov>.

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