



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

NEWS RELEASE

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Nashville District seeking volunteers for National Public Lands Day Sept. 24



WASHINGTON – Thousands of local volunteers at more than 120 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) sites will participate in this year's 18th annual National Public Lands Day, Sept. 24, the largest annual volunteer hands-on restoration activity of its kind. Activities include clean up, repair, construction, refurbishment and other volunteer events in public parks, forests, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and cultural and historic sites. National Public Lands Day participation will involve more than 170,000 volunteers at more than 2,000 sites nationwide.

Volunteers at USACE sites take part in tree planting, erosion control, bank stabilization,

building trails, restoring recreation areas, trash pickup, removing invasive species and non-native plants, improving wildlife habitats, harvesting prairie plant seeds and rehabilitating playgrounds. Volunteering this year with National Public Lands Day is one way to answer President Obama's call to service and play a role in supporting America's Great Outdoors Initiative, an effort to promote the conservation of outdoor spaces and reconnect Americans to the outdoors.

Volunteer Opportunities

Within the Nashville District, the public is encouraged to participate at one of the following NPLD volunteer activities:

Center Hill Lake: Rain or shine, a shoreline cleanup is planned from 9 a.m. to noon (Saturday) Oct. 1. Sign-in and garbage pick-up sites will be located at the Floating Mill and Ragland Bottom Recreation Areas. Participants will be provided gloves and garbage bags and assigned a section of shoreline to work. Lunch is provided. For additional information, to sign up, or to get directions, contact Park Ranger Gary Bruce at **(931) 858-3125**. Also follow Center Hill Lake on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/centerhilllake>.

Cheatham Lake: The U S Army Corps of Engineers is hosting clean-up events at several different areas at Cheatham Lake impacted by the flood of May 2010, which deposited trash and debris where over a million people recreate every year. This event is 8 a.m. (Saturday) Sept. 24 and involves removing trash and debris from this area and returning the area to its pre-flood status. For additional information and directions, contact Park Ranger Dean Austin at **(615) 254-5697**. Also follow Cheatham Lake on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/cheathamlake>.

Cordell Hull Lake: A shoreline cleanup is planned from 8 to 11 a.m. (Saturday) Sept. 24. Volunteers are upgrading campsites, painting, and doing repair work at Defeated Creek Park and Cordell Hull Lake Dam Overlook. Lunch is provided. The starting locations are at the small picnic shelter at Defeated Creek Park. For additional information and directions, contact Park Ranger Sarah Bates at **(615) 735-1034**. Also follow Cordell Hull Lake on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/cordellhulllake>.

Dale Hollow Lake: Trash pickup is planned from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Saturday) Sept. 24 along 620 miles of shoreline and 25,000 surface acres of water. A free picnic cookout and opportunity to win door prizes is included at the Dale Hollow Dam Recreation Area at 1 p.m. The starting locations are at Pleasant Grove, Lillydale, Obey River and Dale Hollow State Park Marina. For additional information and directions, contact Jimmy Carter at **(931) 243-3138**. Also follow Dale Hollow Lake on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/dalehollowlake>.

J. Percy Priest Lake: Volunteers are working from 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sept. 24 to clean up J. Percy Priest Lake. Participants can sign up at <http://www.cleanpercy Priest.org>. Volunteers will meet for their assignments at 3701 Bell Road, west of the Percy Priest Dam and 100 yards from Stewarts Ferry Pike. Complimentary T-shirts and lunch will be provided. For more information, visit <http://www.facebook.com/groups/NCWPupdate> or the J. Percy Priest Lake Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/jpercy Priestlake>.

Lake Barkley: Volunteers are working from 8 a.m. to noon (Saturday) Sept. 24 reestablishing an old walking and bike trail called "Chestnut Oak Trail," which starts at the Eureka campground and continues onto an old railroad bed. The trail crosses a stream where a new bridge is going to be constructed. Sitting benches near the entrance are also being repainted, and trash is being removed from the shoreline. Lunch is provided. The starting location is at the Eureka Campground entrance. For additional information and directions, contact Park Ranger Rich Rice at **(270) 362-4236**. Also follow Lake Barkley on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/lakebarkley>.

Lake Cumberland: The 22nd Lake Cumberland Cleanup took place Sept. 17. The official website for the 2011 event is <http://heartoflakecumberland.com/2011/09/22nd-annual-lake-cumberland-cleanup/>. See the latest from this event on Lake Cumberland's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/lakecumberland>.

Laurel River Lake: The annual Big Spring clean up is scheduled in April 2012. Follow Laurel River Lake at <http://www.facebook.com/laurelriverlake> for more information about this event as it approaches.

Martins Fork Lake: A trash clean-up is planned from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. on (Saturday) Sept. 24 around the park, on the trails, and along the shoreline. Volunteers will also be painting picnic tables at shelters. Lunch will be provided. The starting location is at the Resource Manager's Office. For additional information and directions, contact Park Ranger John Malone at (606) 573-1468. Also follow Martins Fork Lake on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/martinsforklake>.

Old Hickory Lake: Volunteers are going to work from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Saturday) Sept. 24 and help with a lake clean up, garden refurbishment, painting, trail cleanup, invasive species plant removal, and tree planting. Free food and drinks are provided to all participants in appreciation for their commitment to Old Hickory Lake. The starting location is at the Walton Ferry Environmental Study Area or Shutes Branch Bike Trail located at the old Shutes Branch Campground. For additional information and directions, contact Park Ranger Noel Smith at **(615) 822-4846** during duty hours through Friday, Sept. 23. Also follow Old Hickory Lake on Facebook for the latest updates at <http://www.facebook.com/oldhickorylake>.

At each volunteer location, participants should wear work clothes and sturdy footwear and, depending on the weather forecast, pack rain gear.

In 2010, nearly 150,000 volunteers nationwide pitched in to collect litter and debris; remove fence and invasive plant species; plant trees and shrubs; build and improve trails; and participate in numerous other projects on public lands and waters. At USACE events last year, more than 13,000 volunteers worked

approximately 46,000 hours to remove more than 800 tires, clear litter and debris from 260 miles of shoreline, build 48 miles of trails, and plant some 1,000 trees and shrubs.

USACE has been involved with National Public Lands Day since its inception in 1994 and has consistently been one of the event's largest providers of sites and volunteers. As the nation's leading federal provider of outdoor and water-based recreation, USACE manages 421 lake and river projects in 43 states. With nearly 90 percent of these projects located within 50 miles of metropolitan areas, USACE sites provide a wide range of safe, affordable outdoor recreation opportunities close to home.

To locate National Public Lands Day events near you, visit <http://www.publiclandsday.org/>. For more information on USACE recreation opportunities visit <http://www.CorpsLakes.us>.

For more information about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District, visit the district's website at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>, on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nashvillecorps>, and on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/nashvillecorps>.

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