

USA/USACE Partnership



AN ORGANIZED APPROACH TO CONSERVATION

ABOUT THE USA

The USA is a union-dedicated, non-profit organization committed to uniting union members who recreate outdoors into one community with a shared commitment to educate future generations of sportsmen and sportswomen, conserve wildlife habitats, restore America's parks and improve public access to the outdoors.

Mission: *to unite the union community through conservation to preserve North America's outdoor heritage.*



CHARTER UNIONS



"There is no other organization like the Union Sportsmen's Alliance. Not only does the USA sponsor fun events that bring union members together, it also organizes conservation projects that help build stronger communities and illustrate the positive work of union members. The USA protects and enhances our opportunities to enjoy our free time in the outdoors, whether we are hunting, fishing, camping or all of the above. It's time we all get involved!"

Frank J. Christensen, International Union of Elevator Constructors President

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

303,781
TOTAL
MEMBERS

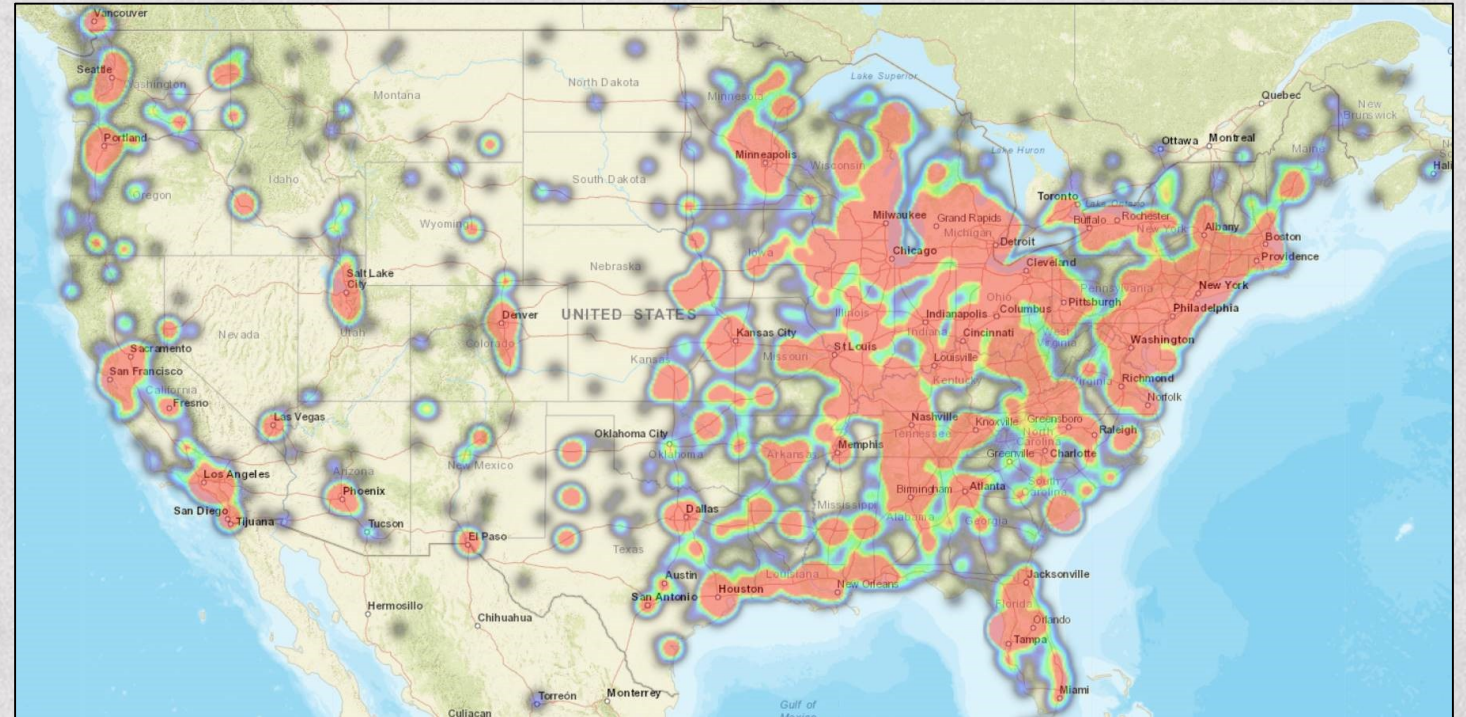
23,591
NEW MEMBERS
IN 2020

Ave. Age of USA Members: 48.8

Male Members: 83%

Female Members: 17%

USA Member Distribution



“Just as union members stand together in solidarity for workers’ rights, the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance offers our members the opportunity to join an organization that will help preserve their ability to hunt, fish and shoot while respecting both their union and family values.”

- James Boland, Intl. Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers President



WBG



**WORK BOOTS
ON THE GROUND**

ENGAGE. CONSERVE. ORGANIZE. UNIFY.

FULFILLING OUR MISSION

The USA formed its Works Boots on the Ground (WBG) initiative in 2010 to bring together union volunteers to donate their time and skills to community-based conservation projects that:

- allow union members to showcase their skills and outdoor passion
- build and improve relationships within the union community as well as with non-union individuals and entities
- help conserve North America's outdoor heritage



With funds raised at the USA's 2nd Annual Alabama Conservation Dinner, more than 40 union volunteers renovated a horse barn at Oak Mountain State Park, transforming the dilapidated structure into a potential revenue source for the park.

WORK BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Through its Work Boots on the Ground initiative, the Union Sportsmen's Alliance harnesses the power and skills of union members to complete hands-on, community-based volunteer projects that improve public access to the outdoors, enhance wildlife habitats, restore America's parks and engage youth in the outdoors to help preserve our outdoor heritage.



121 Infrastructure
Projects



99 Outreach
Projects



33 Support
Projects



\$1,685,250
In Donated Labor

45,620
Volunteer Hours

3,606
Volunteers

13,130
Participants



IMPROVING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS



Suncoast Youth Conservation Center Boardwalk

As part of the USA's 200th Work Boots on the Ground project, union volunteers donated 2,500 hours to construct a handicap-accessible boardwalk and fishing pier at the Suncoast Youth Conservation Center. The boardwalk skirts the center's 5-acre saltwater pond and marsh, paving the way for thousands of visiting students to enjoy fishing and learning about conservation.

CONSERVING WILDLIFE HABITATS



Chesapeake Bay Reef Balls

Through the USA's Work Boots on the Ground program, apprentices of Cement Masons and Plasterers' Local 592 in New Jersey constructed 60 reef balls for the Coastal Conservation Association-Maryland Chapter in 2020. The habitat structures were placed at various locations within Chesapeake Bay to stabilize shorelines and build artificial reefs.

USACE PROJECTS: Kings River– Piedra, CA



Kings River Wildlife Area Pavilion

Through a partnership between the USA and USACE in 2020, 20 union volunteers donated approximately 200 hours to construct a large pavilion at the Kings River Wildlife Area in Sanger, CA. The project saved the USACE \$30,000, and the new pavilion provides shelter for local school and club field trips and other visitors.

USACE PROJECTS: Rend Lake – Marion, IL

Welcome to the Pollinator Trail & Pond

This ¼ mile, accessible trail is surrounded by acres of native plant prairie that bursts with seasonal wildflowers and hosts many grassland birds and busy insects. Discover other habitats as the trail loops around a pond with platforms for fishing or observing aquatic species. Continue to explore along the Nature Trail. This extended, unpaved path passes through the nearby woods where other wildlife might be spotted.

Thank You to Our Partners

This project was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Rend Lake and partners to improve accessible recreation and educational opportunities.

The following partners are gratefully acknowledged for their hard work and generous contributions that made this project possible:



Pollinator Trail & Pond

Local labor union members and other community groups donated 100+ hours, materials and equipment to complete the 1,200-foot Pollinator Trail at the North Marcum Recreation Area on Rend Lake. The trail encircles a pond that volunteers dredged and expanded and features four accessible fishing stations.



USACE Project: Rend Lake – Marion, IL



Rend Lake Archery Trail & Range

USA volunteers from IUOE local 318 completed the main archery trail as well as the new parking lot. Volunteers prepped the grounds and laid rock for the accessible sidewalk to the range shelter. Volunteers will complete the range shelter as well as construct an elevated archery platform similar to the one pictured here in 2021.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

The USA has designed a one-page project proposal document to assist in the project proposal process.

- [USA/ACOE Project Proposal Form](#)

Other beneficial items to include with proposal:

- Photos
- Site Plans
- Design
- Permitting
- Material Lists
- Timeline



Union Sportsmen's Alliance - US Army Corps of Engineers

Project Information



1. ACOE Project Name: _____

2. ACOE District: _____

Physical Address: _____

3. ACOE Contact Information

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Business Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

4. Has a Union organization been identified to assist with this project?

Yes _____ No _____

If Yes, please list the Union organization(s) and contacts.

Name _____ Title _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Union _____

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Problem/Need to be addressed: Please briefly explain ACOE project objectives, which should include:

- How does this impact the ACOE park/district and the future of conservation (provide access, conserve resources, infrastructure, etc.)? *Photos or supporting documentation of the project may be attached with this document*
- What role would ACOE like to see Union volunteers play in this project?

Funding: All project supplies, materials and equipment will be funded by the ACOE. USA Conservation Fund grants may be available for the non-profit partner or union participating. Go to <https://unionsportsmen.org/online-grantapplication/>

PROJECT SELECTION

Project selection is driven by our members.

Key attributes of successful projects:

- Mission centric
- Benefit to community and conservation
- Location relative to membership
- Shovel ready
- Alignment with our members skills
- Timeline



PROJECT EXECUTION



PROJECT EXECUTION

- Once a project has been selected and committed to by our members, we will work to connect a local union volunteer leader with you and your project.
- USA staff will be available to help coordinate and facilitate as needed.
- USA will provide a comprehensive project guide to ensure that we are able to track project progress and collect volunteer hours and project value.

MAKE IT MATTER



PROJECT PROMOTION

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Children, families enjoy free fishing event during boardwalk dedication in Apollo Beach



Scott Vance
CEO Union Sportsmens Alliance

by: WFLA 8 On Your Side Staff

Posted: Nov 2, 2019 / 08:53 PM EDT / Updated: Nov 2, 2019 / 08:53 PM EDT

APOLLO BEACH, Fla. (WFLA) – Hundreds of families got the opportunity to enjoy a free fishing event this afternoon to help celebrate the dedication of a new wheelchair-accessible boardwalk and fishing pier at the Suncoast Youth Conservation Center in Apollo Beach.

PROJECT OUTREACH/PROMOTION

The USA helps promote and extend outreach to the USACE community on the project completion and dedication (if applicable). Working with the USACE, the USA and participating unions and project partners share the story with the public and the news media.

PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES:

- Flyers
- Media advisory/ Press release
- Eblasts
- Social Media
- USA Magazine
- Union journals
- Advertising

PROJECT DEDICATIONS



PROJECT DEDICATIONS

Working with the USACE, the USA team can acknowledge the success of the project through a dedication that celebrates and connects the community, the union volunteers, and the news media.

DEDICATION HIGHLIGHTS:

- The project
- The volunteers
- The unions
- The partners

MAKE IT MATTER



Questions?



UNION SKILLS
OUTDOOR PASSION
COMMON PURPOSE



USA Contact Information

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UNION SKILLS
OUTDOOR PASSION
COMMON PURPOSE

General Inquires

conservation@unionsportsmen.org

NRM Gateway page:

<https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/partners/national.cfm?Partner=usa>