



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Contacts:
Doug Garman, 202-761-1807
doug.m.garman@usace.army.mil

Army Corps of Engineers waives fees and invites volunteers to participate in National Public Lands Day, Sept. 27

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced today that it will waive day use fees normally charged at boat launch ramps and swimming beaches at its recreation areas nationwide in recognition of National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on Saturday, Sept. 27.

The waiver does not apply to camping and camping-related services, or fees for specialized facilities such as group picnic shelters. Other agencies and partners that manage recreation areas located on USACE lands are encouraged, but not required, to comply with this waiver of day use fees in the areas they manage.

USACE welcomes volunteers to continue the annual tradition of public service by participating in NPLD events.

Volunteers who participate in one of USACE's NPLD in-person activities will be issued a fee-free coupon if the volunteer site is participating in the coupon program. Volunteers should check with their local USACE project for more information. The fee-free coupon is valid for one year from the date of issuance and may be used for one day of entrance or day use fees at any participating federal agency's park, forest or recreation area that charges either of these types of fees.

Thousands of volunteers are expected to support the more than 257 USACE sites participating in this year's National Public Lands Day, the largest annual volunteer hands-on restoration activity of its kind and coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF). Last year 4,448 volunteers served 19,244 hours on USACE-managed lands, removing 49,434 pounds of trash, cleaning 632 miles of roadways and shoreline, maintaining 77 miles of trails, planting 6,792 trees and shrubs, and engaging 215 partner organizations.

As a long-standing supporter of National Public Lands Day, USACE contributes significantly by hosting events that mobilize thousands of volunteers across the country.

USACE manages more than 400 lake and river projects in 43 states. With 90 percent of these projects located within 50 miles of metropolitan areas, USACE sites provide a wide range of safe and affordable outdoor recreation opportunities close to home.

For more information on National Public Lands Day or to find events near you, visit <http://www.publiclandsday.org/> or call your local USACE lake or river project office. For more information on USACE recreation opportunities visit www.CorpsLakes.us.

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