

National Public Lands Day 2010

On Saturday, September 25, 2010 just over 300 volunteers came out to support Valley Forge National Historical Park in what is called America's largest one-day outdoor volunteer service, National Public Lands Day.

Volunteers of all ages rolled up their sleeves to assist with 18 projects that included replica hut repair, invasive plant and crayfish removal, painting the exterior of park structures, trail renovation and much more...

People from New Jersey, Philadelphia and the surrounding areas turnout to lend a hand for this special event - now celebrated for its 7th year at Valley Forge National Historical Park- can be attributed in part to the growing emphasis on service and a growing recognition of the importance of public lands for recreation, travel, rejuvenation and health.



This year, Valley Forge NHP was one of the signature parks for the Let's Move Initiative, started by First Lady Michelle Obama, has an ambitious national goal of solving the challenge of childhood obesity within a generation so that children born today will reach adulthood at a healthy weight. Let's Move! will combat the epidemic of childhood obesity through a comprehensive approach that will engage every sector impacting the health of children and will provide schools, families and communities simple tools to help kids be more active, eat better, and get healthy.

Superintendent Caldwell encouraged families to use the park resources by taking advantage of the park trails and fun activities for youth such as the Junior Ranger Program. President Barack Obama issued a proclamation, calling National Public Lands Day a time to "affirm our resolve to conserve...cherished spaces for our enjoyment and for that of future generations."

Of course, another big reason National Public Lands Day continues to be a big success at Valley Forge NHP and has grown so much is because of the numerous volunteers and partners that work hard to make each event as successful as the last.

Special thanks to:

REI – who has teamed up with the park for the fifth year in a row.

Starbucks

Friends of Valley Forge Park

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - PA State Parks- Region 4

French Creek State Park

National Parks Conservation Association

Montgomery County Conservation District

Audubon Society – Valley Forge

Bryn Mawr Hospital

Delaware Valley Orienteering Association

Horse-shoe Trail Club

Appalachian Mountain Club

Energy Coordinating Agency, Inc

King of Prussia Rotary Club

Boy Scouts of America

Valley Forge Signal Seekers

Delaware Valley College

DELVACCA - Johnson Matthey Inc

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Valley Forge Trout Unlimited

Church of Jesus Chris and Latter Day Saints

Lockheed Martin - NOVA

TE Middle School

Marple Newtown History Department

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Saint Gabriel Hall School for Boys

And, to all of you who came out today to give to your National Park. Your time and energy is appreciated.

Thank you!

