



**For Immediate Release**  
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**National Public Lands Day 2011 Declared a Fee-Free Day at National Parks**  
*Annual clean-up event one of five fee-free days this year*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – It only happens a handful of times each year. National Parks across the country waive entry fees for visitors. And for the more than 175,000 Americans who will pitch in on National Public Lands Day 2011, it can mean a free weekend to visit treasured National Parks.

The National Environmental Education Foundation's National Public Lands Day will be a fee-free day to visit parks, the National Park Service announced this week.

Held this year on September 24, National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the largest one-day volunteer event in support of public lands. More than 2,000 sites in all 50 states and the District of Columbia will host a wide array of activities. The volunteer efforts will equal more than \$15 million in improvements.

In addition to free admission on September 24, every participating volunteer at National Park Service sites on National Public Lands Day will receive a coupon for a fee free return visit. In many parks, this can mean a \$100 or more savings for a visit.

"We're hoping people visit parks all year long, but it's never too early to mark your calendars for September 24 to visit our iconic National Parks, including the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Acadia National Park and many more," said Robb Hampton, NPLD's director. "Volunteer, explore and spend the night. It's a great time to enjoy our parks and give back through a few hours of volunteering.

NPLD, a program of the National Environmental Education Foundation, supports the goals of First Lady Michelle Obama's [Let's Move Outside](#) initiative by offering activities at sites around the country to reconnect Americans to the outdoors and encourage family recreation.

Organizers are currently planning events for 2011 at city and county parks, neighborhood green spaces, wildlife sanctuaries, national parks and coastal areas. The events are expected to draw the largest crowds in the program's history.

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. is sponsoring National Public Lands Day for the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

For more information about National Public Lands Day and to locate a volunteer project in your area, please visit [www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org).

For a complete list of free-free days at National Parks, visit:  
<http://www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm>

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NEEF partners with professionals in health, education, media, business and public land management to promote daily actions for helping people protect and enjoy the environment. Through our primary programs -- Classroom Earth, National Public Lands Day, National Environmental Education Week, Business and Environment, Earth Gauge® and Health & Environment -- we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit [www.neefusa.org](http://www.neefusa.org).

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