

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

**WHEREAS,** America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmarks throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and

**WHEREAS,** Public lands provide accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation. Public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and

**WHEREAS,** Shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation and active support of citizens, community, local and state officials, business leaders, youth and adults. Recreation opportunities offered by public lands help families lead a more active lifestyle and reduce the incidence of childhood obesity; and

**WHEREAS,** Land conservation efforts improve access to public lands for urban residents and work to break down the barriers that prevent Americans from actively utilizing their public lands. A collaboration between state and local residents, land managers and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

**WHEREAS,** National Public Lands Day, now celebrating its success as the largest, single-day national volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation, State and City Park systems throughout the nation join with federal agencies to deliver an annual celebration for local participation on publicly held lands in Maryland.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim**  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2015 as NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.**

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 26th day of  
Two Thousand and fifteen

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Robert L. Meyer*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. Delaney*  
Secretary of State

