

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY
September 26, 2015

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is blessed with a rich variety of public lands that includes 120 state parks, 2.2 million acres of forest, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable state and national resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands throughout the nation provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation and 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 of all ages, government officials and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, recreation opportunities offered by public lands help families and individuals lead an active lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, land conservation efforts improve access to public lands for urban residents and build awareness about planned development, shared land use, preservation of wild areas and natural habitats and the benefits realized by diligent restoration and enhancement efforts; and

WHEREAS, an alliance between private citizens, land managers and community leaders, such as that witnessed so frequently at our state parks, forests and historical sites, improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest single-day volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation, with the Bureau of Land Management, the Department of Defense, the National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service, and has become an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in the Commonwealth.

THEREFORE, in recognition of the importance of protecting our open space and other natural resources, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2015, as the 22nd annual NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY and I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize and participate in this special observance.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this twenty-sixth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and fortieth.

Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor