



By His Excellency Dannel P. Malloy, Governor: an

# Official Statement

WHEREAS, America's publicly owned lands include parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams, wetlands, nature centers, community gardens, and other landmarks throughout the nation, which individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, 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, communities, local and state officials, and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, recreation opportunities offered by the State of Connecticut's public lands help families and individuals lead a more active lifestyle; 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 enjoying their public lands; and

WHEREAS, a collaboration among 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 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary, is the Nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation, the Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency, National Park Service, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S Forest Service; now

WHEREFORE, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim September 26, 2015 to be

**NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY**  
in the State of Connecticut.



  
GOVERNOR