

STATE OF DELAWARE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATEMENT  
IN OBSERVANCE OF  
NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

*Whereas*, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, community gardens, and other landmarks throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent our shared 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, community, local and state officials, business leaders, youth, and adults; and

*Whereas*, recreation opportunities offered by public lands help families and individuals lead an 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; 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 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation. This effort has become an annually anticipated celebration for local participation on publicly held lands in this great state of Delaware.

*Now, Therefore, I, Jack A. Markell, Governor,*  
do hereby declare September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY**

in the State of Delaware, and call upon the people of Delaware to recognize and participate in this special observance.

*Jack Markell*

Jack A. Markell  
Governor

