



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife management areas and refuges, historical trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas 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, municipal, county and State officials, business leaders, youth and adults; and

WHEREAS, recreational opportunities offered by public lands help families lead a more active lifestyle and reduce the incidence of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey contains nearly 1.5 million acres of protected open space and parks held for public recreation and conservation purposes in every county; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

AS

PUBLIC LANDS DAY

in New Jersey and encourage residents to honor this observance with appropriate activities and programs.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fifteenth day of July in the year two thousand fifteen, the two hundred fortieth year of the Independence of the United States.

Chris Christie
Lt. GOVERNOR

Debra Steinhilber
GOVERNOR