

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

September 24, 2016

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 collectively represent irreplaceable state and national resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands throughout the nation provide locally accessible natural resources for environmental learning, and wildlife appreciation, promoting civic ideals that include a sense of 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, the recreational 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 that help build awareness about shared land use, and promote the preservation of wild areas and natural habitats; and

WHEREAS, an alliance between 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 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 24, 2016, as the 23rd 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 twelfth day of August two thousand and sixteen, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and forty-first.



Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor