



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

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 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 the civic ideal of shared stewardship; and

WHEREAS, shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation and active support of citizens, community, local and state officials, and business leaders; 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, 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 is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation; and

WHEREAS, state and local park systems throughout the nation join with federal agencies to deliver an annually anticipated celebration for local participation on publicly held lands in this great State of Tennessee;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2016 as

Public Lands Day

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-first day of July, 2016.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Dugger

Secretary of State

