



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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www.nps.gov/cuva
www.dayinthevalley.com

Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Tuesday, June 16, 2009

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Year of the River Festivities Planned at Cuyahoga Valley National Park *Celebrate the Comeback of the Cuyahoga River*

Brecksville, Ohio – On Saturday, June 20, join Cuyahoga Valley National Park staff and others for special *Year of the River* festivities. In 1969, the river caught on fire for just 24 minutes, and for years, “the burning river” was a national symbol of how we had failed as stewards of the environment. This year is the 40th anniversary of the fire, but, happily, the Cuyahoga is making a comeback. Once a source of shame, the Cuyahoga River is now an inspiration, demonstrating how people can heal a damaged river.

Scheduled Events

- **Drop in at Boston Store Visitor Center** for activities all day. From 10 a.m. to noon, Watershed Steward Volunteers share their knowledge. From 11 a.m. to noon and again from 1 to 2 p.m., hike along the river with a park ranger to learn about returning wildlife. From 2 to 4 p.m., participate in water quality testing. From 3 to 5 p.m., a park ranger shares green ideas for your home. Boston Store Visitor Center is located at 1548 Boston Mills Road, Peninsula.
- **Visit our Wildlife Watcher Volunteers** at Station Road Bridge, Beaver Marsh, and the Bath Road heronry from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Station Road Bridge is located at 13513 Riverview Road, Brecksville. Beaver Marsh is located on the Towpath Trail, between Ira and Hunt Farm Trailheads. Ira Trailhead is located at 3801 Riverview Road, Cuyahoga Falls. Hunt Farm Trailhead is located 2045 Bolanz Road, Cuyahoga Falls. The Bath Road heronry is located near the intersection of Bath Road and Riverview Road, Akron.
- **Pop in to Park Place in Peninsula** from noon to 4 p.m. for stories and crafts with a park ranger. Park Place in Peninsula is located at 1593 Main Street, Peninsula.
- **Peninsula’s First Annual Plein Air Competition, *Along the Crooked River***, is also this weekend. Artists complete their work in “plein air” along the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 21. The public may watch the artists work. For more information, visit www.explorepenninsula.com.

Visit www.nps.gov/cuva for more in-depth stories on the history of the Cuyahoga River and its comeback.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information about the park, visit www.nps.gov/cuva/ or www.dayinthevalley.com/ or call (216) 524-1497 or (800) 445-9667.

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