



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley  
National Park

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## Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Tuesday, December 1, 2009  
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### **National Park Service Provides Funding for Rural Fire Assistance**

**Brecksville, Ohio** - The National Park Service announces a \$2100 grant for Rural Fire Assistance (RFA) to the Bath Fire Department in Akron, Ohio. Bath Fire Department provides fire protection to a portion of Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). The funding provides for wildland firefighting hand tools and equipment.

The RFA program is primarily designed to increase firefighter safety and enhance the fire protection capabilities of rural fire departments. This is achieved by assisting those departments in meeting or exceeding accepted standards of wildland fire qualifications, training, and performance. Emphasis is placed on departments that protect rural communities and play a substantial cooperative role in the protection of federal lands such as Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The National Park Service recognizes the important role that all local fire departments play in the protection of our public lands.

Acting Superintendent Paul Stoehr commented, “We are pleased to provide this grant to support Bath Fire Department’s efforts to respond to fires either in the community or in Cuyahoga Valley National Park. It is an excellent opportunity to continue our cooperative working relationship by providing them with much needed tools and equipment.”

The RFA is a cost share grant in which the National Park Service provides 90% of the funding and the fire department matches with a 10% in-kind donation.

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/](http://www.nps.gov/cuva/) or [www.dayinthevalley.com/](http://www.dayinthevalley.com/) or call (330) 657-2752 or (800) 445-9667.

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