



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 – Thursday, March 6, 2014

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What is a National Park Service Hotshot Firefighter?

Alpine Hotshots Superintendent shares wildland firefighting experiences

Brecksville, Ohio - Wildland fires have plagued our National Parks for almost a century—the most noted were the Yellowstone National Park fires in 1988. On Friday, March 14, 2014 you can learn about the training and experiences of wildland firefighters or “hotshots” from Paul Cerda, Superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park Alpine Hotshots. The program is as a part of the Lyceum Distinguished Speaker Series, presented by Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Lecture begins at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$6 adults and \$3 children ages 3 - 12. General seating.

Hotshot firefighters respond to the hottest and often most dangerous parts of a wildland fire, and they go through rigorous training in order to qualify for a job that demands incredible fitness, teamwork, and bravery. After completing qualifying tests, the crew will often go for an eight to 10 mile trail run at an elevation of over 7,000 feet. Paul will tell stories of the challenges hotshots face in the field as well as the impacts of fire in National Parks

Advance sales are available by calling 330-657-2909, option 4, or purchasing online at www.conservancyforcvnp.org. Click on Events for listings and registration links. On lecture days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Happy Days Lodge, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula 44264, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and special event rentals. For more information on rentals, call the Conservancy at 330-657-2909 ext. 119.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or call 330-657-2752.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a nonprofit organization created to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park. For more information about the Conservancy and its membership program, visit www.conservancyforevnp.org or call 330-657-2909.

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