



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

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Volunteers and Teachers Needed to Launch Canalway Questing Program

Brecksville, Ohio – The National Park Service is partnering with Cleveland Metroparks, Cascade Locks Park Association, and Metro Parks, Serving Summit County to introduce Questing – a new interactive recreational activity to Northeast Ohio. Training will be offered March 4-5 for general public and March 6-7 for teachers at Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP).

Questing is type of “letterboxing” that involves following a rhyming trail of clues and a curious map to find a hidden box. Quests challenge their creators to discover what is truly unique about a certain place—could be a forest trail, a local museum, or a historic area—and share this with others in a fun, imaginative way. Questers log their finds and collect unique stamps, and some quests can be done using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, allowing geocachers to get involved, too.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park and its partners are modeling this project on the successful Valley Quest program in New England. National questing expert Steve Glazer leads a series of two-day workshops to train volunteers, park staff, and teachers in developing the first 25 quests for the Ohio & Erie Canalway. The workshops are free, but a time commitment is involved. Working in pairs, workshop participants will create one or two quests during the spring. Stipends are available for teachers only. Volunteers are also needed to pilot the new quests in May and June.

Thursday and Friday, March 4 - 5

Canalway Questing Workshop

Boston Store Visitor Center, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily

Saturday and Sunday, March 6 - 7

Questing Workshop for Teachers

Boston Store Visitor Center, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily

Boston Store Visitor Center is located at 1548 Boston Mills Road, east of Riverview Road, Peninsula 44264.

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



David Sobel, author of *Childhood and Nature*, noted, "Steve Glazer is one of the true, great practitioners of place-based education in the western hemisphere. With his insight and perspicacity, he's made questing one of the unique vehicles for delving into local landscapes, culture, stories and history. He's the Pied Piper of finding our roots. Follow him and there's never a dull moment."

The New England Environmental Education Alliance recognized Valley Quest, under the direction of Steven Glazer, with its Maria Pirie Environmental Program Award for excellence in 2005. To learn more about Steve Glazer and see sample quests, visit www.poeticsofplace.org.

For more information about the Canalway project, and to register for a workshop, contact Arrye Rosser at (440) 546-5992 or arrye_rosser@nps.gov. Accommodations are in place for some teachers to attend the weekday workshop and for some non-teachers the weekend one, if those dates are preferred.

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 (330) 657-2752 or (800) 445-9667.

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