

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Volunteer Program

Building a Community of Park Stewards



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Cuyahoga Valley National Park Recognizes Volunteers in a Sustainable Way

Brecksville, Ohio - Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) Volunteer-in-Parks Program recognized volunteers for their time and contributions to the national park in a sustainable way. On Saturday, August 11, Superintendent Stan Austin and CEO Deb Yandala of the Conservancy greeted 300 volunteers and their guests for a celebration at the Ledges Shelter. The event consisted of dinner, games, campfire, and an award presentation.

The theme of the event was sustainability with guests bringing their own reusable place settings and chairs, encouraging carpooling, and composting. Information and demonstrations about the park's sustainability efforts were presented by the park's Green Team. Most guests arrived four or five to a car, and waste was limited to 30 pounds of trash.

Awards were presented to volunteers nominated for the George and Helen Hartzog Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service that honors the efforts of exceptional individual volunteers and groups. All nominations will be submitted to the National Park Service, which will select one recipient from each category at the regional and national level. "These volunteers have been nominated for their outstanding contribution to CVNP in the past year. We are thrilled to honor each of them," states Lisa Meranti, Director of Volunteer Services.

"We are tremendously grateful for the time and dedication the volunteers bring to the park. The volunteers have a wealth of knowledge and experience that enables the park to create innovative volunteer opportunities to achieve goals critical to the park's mission." said Superintendent Stan Austin.

Awards were presented to the following:

- In the Adult Category: Tim Britton, Dan Krieger, Jancie Newhouse, and Gene Stepanik
- In the Youth Category: Brianna Machuga
- In the Enduring Service Category: David Kopkas and Kevin Tuttle
- In the Group Category: Gerry and Ann Findlan and CVSR Volunteer Association

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CONSERVANCY
for CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK



**Cuyahoga Valley
National Park**

About the Volunteers-in-Parks Program

CVNP's VIP program is co-managed by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Together, they accomplish park goals through mutually beneficial volunteer experiences and engage people in the park, building a community of park stewards. Currently more than 5,700 VIPs donate over 154,800 hours to provide the highest level of quality services to park visitors and to help protect America's heritage.

To join these volunteers in making a difference at CVNP, contact the volunteer office at volunteer@forcvnp.org, 330-657-2299, or visit conservancyforcvnp.org. Many opportunities are available and training is provided.

About the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a non-profit 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 programs, visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org or call 330-657-2909.

About Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Cuyahoga Valley National Park 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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