



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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New Volunteer Center for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Brecksville, Ohio - Superintendent John P. Debo, Jr. announced today that work has begun on development of a new Volunteer Center in Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). The project involves rehabilitating the historic Savacoal House, Savacoal Barn, Boodey House, and Conger House, all of which are located near the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail in the village of Boston.

The complex will provide office, work, storage, and meeting space for the national park's volunteer support organizations. CVNP's volunteer program has over 2400 volunteers and is among the largest in the National Park System.

Over 2/3 of the \$855,000 project costs are from private contributions raised by the park's non-profit partner, Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association (CVNPA). Contributors include the Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation, the Lehner Family Foundation, the Jean Thomas Lambert Foundation, the Chilcote Family Foundation, the Bokom Foundation, several park volunteers, and the descendants of the Savacoal family. The remainder of the funding is provided by Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park's volunteer program is jointly managed by Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association and the national park.

According to Deb Yandala, Chief Executive Officer of Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association, "Private support of time and money enhances the impact of the park in our community. We are grateful to our volunteers and hope that providing physical space for this growing program will encourage more people to volunteer in the park."

"We are indebted to CVNPA, and particularly CEO Deb Yandala, for this wonderfully successful fundraising effort in support of our volunteer program," said Superintendent Debo. "This is an excellent example of partnering with donors and volunteers to achieve important park goals."

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CVNPA 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 CVNPA and its membership program, visit www.cvnpa.org or call (330) 657-2909.

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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