



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Guadalupe Mountains  
National Park

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## Guadalupe Mountains News Release

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# Guadalupe Mountains National Park Invites Families, Groups and Individuals to Volunteer for National Public Lands Day Stewardship Day Event

(Pine Springs, TX) Superintendent Dennis A. Vásquez announced today that on September 24, 2011, Guadalupe Mountains National Park will host a *Guadalupe Mountains National Park Stewardship Day* event, joining federal, state and local public lands across America's Great Outdoors, in celebration of 2011 National Public Lands Day (<http://www.publiclandsday.org/>).

Join the National Park Service for National Public Lands Day at Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Several service projects will be available for groups, families and individuals. RSVPs are recommended to match you with suitable projects and to ensure adequate quantities of supplies and materials are available. Volunteers are welcome to bring their own work gloves, if you have them. Walk-in participants will be accepted. There will be various projects for organizations, groups, families or individuals, including:

- Restore trails and brush overgrowth at the McKittrick Canyon Nature Loop Trail;
- Restore trails and brush overgrowth at the McKittrick Canyon Geology Trail (Adults or Older Teens Only);
- Rehabilitate sections of the McKittrick Canyon Trail;
- Remove fencing;
- Maintain Pine Springs Campground and Dog Canyon Campground;
- Remove invasive species throughout the park;

Also on that day, there will be a free Ranger-Guided hike through McKittrick Canyon to the Grotto from 10:00 AM until 4:15 PM. Meet the ranger at the McKittrick Canyon Visitor Contact Station at 9:45 AM and bring sturdy hiking boots, lunch, snacks, water (at least one gallon per

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person is recommended), sun block and a spirit of adventure. Historic Pratt Cabin, former home of Petroleum Engineer Wallace E. Pratt, who was instrumental in the creation of Guadalupe Mountains National Park, will also be open from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

"We are excited to be participating in the 2011 National Public Lands Day. With over 80 miles of trails, 60% of which are available for horseback riding, Guadalupe Mountains National Park is an excellent place for visitors to get fresh air and exercise in a natural, awe-inspiring national park, while helping the National Park Service care for this magnificent park that we all love. We invite families, seniors and people near and far, to come out and enjoy the day, sign up for one of our service project and help the park, hike a trail, participate in a ranger-guided hike, become a junior or senior ranger or junior paleontologist or Scout Ranger, and explore the park," stated Vásquez.

For more information on the 2011 National Public Lands Day Guadalupe Mountains National Park Stewardship Day event, please visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/GUMO/](http://www.nps.gov/GUMO/) or Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/GuadalupeMountains](http://www.facebook.com/GuadalupeMountains), or contact the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center at tel. 915-828-3251 ext. 2124.

Camping is available at the Pine Springs and Dog Canyon campgrounds. There is limited group camping and groups should contact the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center at (915) 828-3251 x2124), as soon as possible, for group information and reservations. There is no public transportation available to the park. There are no groceries, gas or services available in park, and the closest are 35 miles away. Fill your gas tank before coming and bring plenty of food, snacks, water (at least one gallon per person per day is recommended), sunscreen and anything else you will need. The weather can be unpredictable and can change rapidly, so dress appropriately.

Families with children will want to stop by the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center to obtain Junior or Senior Ranger or Junior Paleontologist activity booklets. Maps, guidebooks, hiking sticks and other items may be purchased at the Guadalupe Mountains Bookstore, which is operated by non-profit cooperating association partner Carlsbad Caverns Guadalupe Mountains Association ([www.ccgma.org](http://www.ccgma.org)) inside the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center.

Weather may be unpredictable in the Guadalupe Mountains, so dress appropriately and bring plenty of water, food and snacks, as there are no stores or food service within Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Remember to fill your gas tank before coming to the park, as there are no services available in the park and the closest gas station is 35 miles away.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park is located in far West Texas on U.S. Highway 62/180. The driving distance is 110 miles east of El Paso, Texas, or 56 miles southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico. Visitors traveling to Dog Canyon, on the park's north side, can access the area via New Mexico State Road 137. There is no public transportation or shuttle service available in the park. While the approach to Guadalupe Mountains National Park is scenic from any direction, there are no paved driving tours within the park. Park roads provide access to the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center and Campground, the McKittrick Canyon Visitor Contact Station, Frijole Ranch, the Dog Canyon Visitor Contact Station and Campground, Williams Ranch (4X4 only), and trailheads. Park information, including park conditions or restrictions, may be found on the park's website ([www.nps.gov/gumo/](http://www.nps.gov/gumo/)) or Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/GuadalupeMountains](http://www.facebook.com/GuadalupeMountains)), or by contacting the Pine Springs Visitor Center at (915) 828-3251 x2124. The Pine Springs Visitor Center is open daily (except for Christmas) from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM (8:00 AM until 6:00 PM from Memorial Day Weekend through

Labor Day). The Dog Canyon Visitor Contact Station is staffed intermittently, and may be reached at (575) 981-2418. Motorists traveling past the park along U.S. Highway 62/180 may tune in to the park's Traveler's Information Station radio broadcast at 1610 AM for up-to-date park information.

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