



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National
Historical Park

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Independence National Historical Park

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For Immediate Release
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Saturday, September 25, 2010, Celebrate National Public Lands Day at Independence NHP!

Philadelphia— Celebrate National Public Lands Day at Independence National Historical Park. National Public Lands Day brings together volunteers across the nation to improve and restore the lands that Americans use for recreation, education and just plain enjoyment. Volunteer activities at Independence NHP will include planting, raking and landscape rehabilitation. Call (215) 597-5102 to sign up to volunteer or for updates about the day's activities.

As part of our volunteer events, the First Bloom Girl Scouts and Independence NHP will be hosting a Fall Clean-Up from 10 am until 2 pm in the native garden located at the Dock Creek Bridge, behind Carpenter's Hall. First Bloom is a nationwide program that connects kids between 4th and 6th grades to nature and national parks. Troops 21133 and 2610 of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania will be on site to lead volunteers in the proper care and maintenance of the garden. Volunteers will be pulling weeds, conducting soil pH tests, gathering seeds from the native plants, cleaning out leaves for compost and laying mulch. The First Bloom troops will staff an information table to inform and educate the public on why native plants and national parks are important through conservation and stewardship. To promote native plant use in home gardens, the Girl Scouts will help each visitor plant a native seed cup to take home and germinate. Visitors will also be able to pick up the First Bloom Gazette, written by the First Bloom Girl Scouts themselves.

For more information about the day's volunteer activities or to register to volunteer, please call 215-597-5102. First Bloom programs around the nation were generously supported by the UPS Foundation, ARAMARK Parks and Recreation, and gifts from private donors and foundations.

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