



American Recreation Coalition

Dedicated to the protection and enhancement of everyone's right to health and happiness through recreation.

NEWS

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National Get Outdoors Day Overview



Building on the success of *More Kids in the Woods* and other important efforts to connect Americans – and especially children – with nature and active lifestyles, the U.S. Forest Service and the American Recreation Coalition agreed to lead an inclusive, nationwide effort focusing on a single day when people would be inspired and motivated to get outdoors. **National Get Outdoors Day** partnered with federal, state and local agencies, key enthusiast organizations and recreation

businesses to create a healthy, fun day of outdoor adventure aimed at reaching first-time visitors to public lands and reconnecting our youth to the great outdoors.

June 14, 2008 marked the inaugural **National Get Outdoors Day**. Over 50 official **National Get Outdoors Day** sites across the nation from Anacostia Park in Washington, D.C. to the Big Bear Discovery Center in the San Bernardino National Forest welcomed thousands of new faces to the joy and benefits of the great outdoors. Participating partners offer opportunities for American families to experience traditional and non-traditional types of outdoor activities.

Each **National Get Outdoors Day** event offered a mix of information centers and “active fun” areas – places where guests, and especially kids, could use a fishing pole, go geocaching, help pitch a tent and more. The sites offered photo opportunities with characters like Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl and other interesting creatures. In addition, National Get Outdoors Day events encouraged partners like the Boy Scouts of America, the Boys and Girls Clubs and the National Park Service WebRangers to recruit youth to become part of programs and organizations designed to strengthen their connection to the outdoors.

National Get Outdoors Day had tremendous support from partners across the country. They were grateful for the opportunity to combat the sedentary lifestyles that are affecting the mental, physical and spiritual well-being of today's youth.

National Get Outdoors Day Report Add One

The inaugural National Get Outdoors Day (NGOD) accomplishments are impressive:

- Thousands of American families and youth participated in NGOD activities across the country.
- Hundreds of partners made the NGOD events possible through support and sponsorship. Over \$10,000 in free giveaways to the public included Coleman camping equipment, Clif bars, National Wildlife Federation resources, and more.
- 54 official sites in 34 states plus Puerto Rico celebrated NGOD in addition to countless non-official sites.
- NGOD received heavy local media coverage, including widespread print and online articles, as well as radio and television features.
- Proclamations from Governors and Mayors gave specific support to NGOD.
- www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org jumped from zero to 19,000 hits in two months!

The visibility and support of National Get Outdoors Day will continue to increase. To foster this growth and to improve the events across the country, the following suggestions have been made:

- Increase efforts for outreach to underserved communities. Build relationships with community leaders, youth ministers, sports organizations, schools and others connected to the target audience.
- Utilize bilingual marketing efforts to encourage Latino community participation.
- Recruit political leaders, sports figures and celebrities to emphasize the importance of NGOD.
- Develop and propose sponsorship opportunities for 2009 which will be in place in time for the Outdoor Retailer show in Salt Lake City in August.
- Continue efforts to enlist Charter Champions (\$1,000 pledge) throughout the fall of 2008.
- Explore inclusion of music and food at certain NGOD events.
- Discuss further the NGOD 2009 official date, either moving it earlier to kickoff Great Outdoors Month or keeping it in June with the option of allowing events throughout the course of a few weeks or month.
- Change the NGOD event starting time to later in the day to respond to the activity patterns of targeted families and youth.

The American Recreation Coalition and the U.S. Forest Service will continue to solicit ideas to further improve future NGOD events.

The NGOD Partners that have sent feedback to the National Coordinating Committee have pledged 100% participation in the 2009 NGOD and promised to build upon the successes and lessons of the inaugural events.

**National Get Outdoors Day Report
Add Two**

National Get Outdoors Day Partners

National Get Outdoors Day Coordinators

*American Recreation Coalition
U.S. Forest Service*

National Get Outdoors Day Charter Champions

*America's Byways Resource Center
Castle Rock RV Resort Campground
Clif Bar
The Coleman Company
National Marine Manufacturers Association
Pennsylvania Recreation Vehicle and Camping
Association*

National Get Outdoors Day Partners

<i>AAA</i>	<i>The Corps Network</i>
<i>Airstream</i>	<i>Desert Discovery Center</i>
<i>Allegheny Outdoor Club</i>	<i>Dillon Nature Center</i>
<i>Allstate Specialty Product Lines</i>	<i>Discover Boating</i>
<i>American Camping Association</i>	<i>Forever Resorts</i>
<i>American Hiking Society</i>	<i>Friends of Makoshika Park</i>
<i>American Horse Council</i>	<i>Get Outdoors Georgia</i>
<i>American Land and Leisure</i>	<i>Georgia Department of Natural Resources</i>
<i>American Quarterhorse Association</i>	<i>Girl Scouts of America</i>
<i>American Rivers</i>	<i>Good Sam Club</i>
<i>Americans for Responsible Recreational Access</i>	<i>Groundspeak, Inc.</i>
<i>Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies</i>	<i>The Henry Ford</i>
<i>Association of Nature Center Administrators</i>	<i>Idaho Division of Tourism Development</i>
<i>Bass Pro Shops</i>	<i>International Mountain Bicycling Association</i>
<i>Best Outdoor Activities Magazine</i>	<i>Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks</i>
<i>Boy Scouts of America</i>	<i>Kids Fest</i>
<i>Bureau of Land Management</i>	<i>Kids Outdoors Magazine</i>
<i>Bureau of Reclamation</i>	<i>KOA, Campgrounds of America, Inc.</i>
<i>C.A.S.T. for Kids</i>	<i>Leave No Trace</i>
<i>Cabella's</i>	<i>Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail</i>
<i>California Land Management</i>	<i>Louisiana State Parks</i>
<i>California RV Dealers</i>	<i>Maine Department of Conservation</i>
<i>Camp Fire USA</i>	<i>Missouri Department of Conservation</i>
<i>Chicago Wilderness</i>	<i>Missouri Department of Natural Resources</i>
<i>City of Glendale Parks & Recreation Department</i>	<i>National Association of State Park Directors</i>
<i>City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks</i>	<i>National Forest Foundation</i>
<i>City of Thornton/Thornton, Colorado</i>	<i>National Forest Recreation Association</i>
<i>Connecticut State Parks</i>	<i>National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council</i>
	<i>National Outdoor Leadership School</i>
	<i>National Park Service</i>

National Get Outdoors Day Report Add Three

National Recreation and Park Association
National Ski Areas Association
National Wildlife Federation
National Youth Marine Alliance
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nevada Division of State Parks
Outdoor Alliance
Outdoor Industry Association
Outward Bound Wilderness
Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators
Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and State Parks
President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports
Recreation Vehicle Dealers Association
Recreation Vehicle Industry Association
Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation

REI
Roots & Shoots
Salt River Tubing & Recreation
San Bernardino National Forest Association
Schrader Environmental Education Center
Seaway Trails, Inc.
Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort
Take Pride in America
TengoInternet
Thor Industries
TOUR of the Red River Gorge
Tread Lightly!
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USA Freedom Corps
USA Today
W.O.W. - Wonderful Outdoor World

2008 National Get Outdoors Day Official Sites

AK

[Chugach National Forest](#)
Portage Valley, AK
Annette Heckart
U.S. Forest Service

AL

[Talladega National Forest](#)
[Coleman Lake Recreation Area](#)
Heflin, AL
Renee Morrison
Jacksonville State University
Field School

[Tuskegee National Forest](#)
Tuskegee, AL
Willie Humphrey
U.S. Forest Service

AZ

[Grand Canal Linear Park](#)
Glendale, AZ
Jen Godbehere
City of Glendale Parks &
Recreation Department

[Salt River Tubing & Recreation](#),
[Tonto National Forest](#)
Mesa, AZ
Lynda Breault
Salt River Tubing & Recreation

CA

[Huntington Lake](#)
CA
Linda Sadler
California Land Management

[Desert Discovery Center](#)
Barstow, CA
Rose Beardshear

[Big Bear Discovery Center](#)
Fawnskin, CA
Sarah Miggins
San Bernardino National Forest
Association

[Upper Kern River](#)
Kernville, CA
Debbie Campbell
California Land Management

[Angeles National Forest](#)
Los Angeles, CA
Barbara Croonquist
U.S. Forest Service

CO

[Sloan's Lake Park](#)
Denver, CO
Susan Alden Weingardt
U.S. Forest Service

National Get Outdoors Day Report

Add Four

CT

[Connecticut State Parks](#)

CT

DC

[Anacostia Park](#)

Washington, DC

DE

[The Delaware State](#)

[Fairgrounds](#)

Harrington, DE

Linda Chick

Kids Fest

GA

[Cantor Woolfoord Gardens at](#)

[the Frazier Center](#)

Atlanta, GA

Tim Banks

Get Outdoors Georgia, Georgia

Department of Natural

Resources

ID

[Idaho Panhandle National](#)

[Forests](#)

ID

Suzanne Endsley

U.S. Forest Service

IL

[National Great Rivers Museum](#)

[at Melvin Price Locks and Dam](#)

East Alton, IL

Mindy Cory

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

KS

[Cedar Bluff State Park](#)

Ellis, KS

Chris Smith

Kansas Department of Wildlife

and Parks

[Clinton Lake \(Ironman\)](#)

[Triathlon\)](#)

Lawrence, KS

David Rhoades

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

[Melvern Lake & Pomona Lake](#)

Vassar, KS

Kenneth Wilk

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

KY

[Stanton, Kentucky](#)

Stanton, KY

Cliff & Sherry Cantrell

TOUR of the Red River Gorge

LA

[Camp Te Ca Towazi](#)

Bogalusa, LA

Tamara Augustine

Camp Fire USA Towazi

MD

[Fort McHenry National](#)

[Monument and Historic Shrine](#)

Baltimore, MD

Vince Vaise

National Park Service

MI

[The Henry Ford](#)

Dearborn, MI

Katie Armstrong

U.S. Forest Service

MN

[Chippewa National Forest](#)

Cass Lake, MN

Mary Nordeen

U.S. Forest Service

[Fort Snelling State Park](#)

St. Paul, MN

Arlene White

U.S. Forest Service

[Mississippi National River &
Recreation Area](#)

St. Paul, MN

Paul Labovitz

National Park Service

MO

[Columbia Bottom Conservation](#)

[Area](#)

MO

Phil Manhart

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Missouri Department of

Conservation

[Wappapello Lake \(Corps of](#)

[Engineers Birthday and Military](#)

[Celebration\)](#)

Wappapello, MO

Andrew Jefferson

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

[Riverlands Migratory Bird](#)

[Sanctuary](#)

West Alton, MO

Mindy Cory

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

MT

[Makoshika State Park](#)

Glendive, MT

Ryan Sokoloski

Friends of Makoshika Park

[Lewis and Clark National](#)

[Forest and Montana Fish,](#)

[Wildlife and Parks](#)

Great Falls, MT

Lewis & Clark National Historic

Trail Interpretive Center

NC

[Cradle of Forestry in America](#)

[Historic Site](#)

Pisgah National Forest, NC

Cindy Carpenter

U.S. Forest Service

National Get Outdoors Day Report Add Five

NM

[Cibola National Forest](#)
Albuquerque, NM
Karen Carter
U.S. Forest Service

[Elephant Butte Lake State Park](#)
Elephant Butte, NM
Salvador Gonzalez
New Mexico State Parks

[Santa Rosa Lake State Park](#)
Santa Rosa, NM
Mario Andrada
New Mexico State Parks

[Storrie Lake State Park](#)
Storrie Lake, NM
Steve Coca
New Mexico State Parks

[Villaneuva State Park](#)
Villaneuva, NM
Frank Gutierrez
New Mexico State Parks

NV

[Washoe Lake State Park](#)
Carson City, NV
Domenic Bravo
Nevada Division of State Parks

[Callville Bay Marina at Lake Mead](#)
Lake Mead, NV
Amy Gloyd
Forever Resorts

NY

[AM: Seaway Trail Discovery Center; PM: Black Pond Wildlife Management Area](#)
AM: Sackets Harbor; PM: Town of Ellisburg, NY
Kara Dunn
Seaway Trail, Inc.

OR

[Umpqua National Forest: Fall Creek Falls](#)
Roseburg, OR

PA

[Keystone State Park](#)
Derry, PA
Pamela McQuistian
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - State Parks

[Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site](#)
Elverson, PA
Frances Delmar
National Park Service

[Nockamixon State Park](#)
Quakertown, PA
Heather Bennett
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - State Parks

[Chapman State Park \(adjacent to Allegheny National Forest\)](#)
Warren County, PA
Sharon Johnson
Allegheny Outdoor Club

PUERTO RICO

[El Yunque National Forest](#)
Rio Grande, Puerto Rico
Manuel Ortiz
U.S. Forest Service

SD

[Lake Oahe](#)
Fort Pierre, SD
Ami Garrigan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

TX

[Hazel Bazemore Park](#)
Corpus Christi, TX
Kris White
Camp Fire USA

UT

[Historic John Jarvie Ranch](#)
Browns Park, UT
Robert Massey
Bureau of Land Management

[Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort](#)
Snowbird, UT
Bob Bonar
Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort

VA

[Boy Scouts of America Camp William Snyder](#)
Haymarket, VA
Mike Donaghue
Boy Scouts of America

WY

[Shoshone National Forest](#)
Dubois, WY
Mark Hinschberger
U.S. Forest Service

[Bridger-Teton National Forest](#)
Jackson, WY
David Cernicek
U.S. Forest Service

National Get Outdoors Day Report
Add Six

2008 National Get Outdoors Day Photos



**National Get Outdoors Day Report
Add Seven**



**National Get Outdoors Day Report
Add Eight**



**National Get Outdoors Day Report
Add Nine**



National Get Outdoors Day

National Get Outdoors Day is an outgrowth of the Get Outdoors USA! campaign, which encourages Americans, especially our youth, to seek out healthy, active outdoor lives and embrace our parks, forests, refuges and other public lands and waters. For more information, go to: www.getoutdoorsusa.org or www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org