



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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Add Your Efforts to National Public Lands Day Activities

Fairfax County will celebrate National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on September 26, 2015 with an opportunity to help restore and protect the historic McDannald House and grounds, located at 11903 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, VA.

Join members of the recently established Historic Sites Volunteer Corps for a workday effort that includes work on original hardwood flooring, cleaning, tending to the grounds and generally making the site better than we found it. A recent survey found that residents in Fairfax County want to improve and care for existing park sites. This is the perfect way to join in that system-wide effort!

The workday will run from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. with brief remarks at 8:15 a.m. Light refreshments will be provided. Please bring gloves, wear old clothes and be ready to roll up your sleeves and get dirty! To volunteer at McDannald House contact Todd Brown at 703-324-8676.

The McDannald House was built early in the second quarter of the twentieth century by the McDannald family, as part of their dairy farm complex. In 1981, FCPA purchased the house on five acres, expanding Dranesville Tavern Heritage Park, just west of the house.

NPLD is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands. The first NPLD was held in 1994 with three sites and 700 volunteers participating. Last year, approximately 175,000 volunteers worked at 2,132 sites scattered across all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The National Environmental Education Foundation reports that last year's NPLD volunteers:

- Collected an estimated 23,000 pounds of invasive plants
- Built and maintained an estimated 1,500 miles of trails
- Planted an estimated 100,000 trees, shrubs and other native plants
- Removed an estimated 500 tons of trash from trails and other places
- Contributed an estimated \$18 million through volunteer services to improve public lands across the country

In Fairfax County, hundreds of volunteers participated last year through invasive plant management (IMA program) efforts at several sites. The IMA program will have three sites in action once again this year. Volunteers are also needed to support those efforts and individuals can sign up by contacting IMA Coordinator Erin Stocksclaeder at 703-324-8681 or via email at Erin.Stocksclaeder@fairfaxcounty.gov

Seven federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and state, regional and local governments participate in this annual day of caring for public lands that is typically held on the last Saturday in September.



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.