



September 2, 2017

Dear Partner:

Thank you for your interest in our 23rd National Public Lands Day (NPLD) event in Grand County. This packet is being sent because you have participated in one or more previous events or have requested the information on our NPLD site. NPLD is **September 30, 2017** and we are hoping to recruit 200 volunteers to help “lend a hand and care for the land”.

What’s New for 2017:

We are dedicating this year’s NPLD to one of our long term partners, Jean Miller. Jean was an inspiration to us all because of her devotion to public lands and her joy in spending time in the outdoors. Jean volunteered for our NPLD site every year since we started in 1995. In salute to Jean’s contribution to NPLD her name will be on the T-shirt along with some special personal “favorites”.

Our venue will be again at the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch, Camp Chief Ouray Nordic Center. Special lodging rates for the weekend are available to our volunteers by contacting the YMCA at 970-887-2152 and using the code words “Public Lands Day”.

Last year we had success in cutting down wasted food by not providing lunches. So this year we hope to continue with that endeavor by again **NOT providing lunches**. Please make sure you bring ample food for your lunch and snacks to keep you going until you enjoy our **catered dinner**.

Special Requests:

Our committee is always striving to improve our event. Please drop us a line or e-mail with suggestions on how we can make our site better. Contact names, addresses, and phone numbers can be found on Page 2. For those of you that love social media, you can tweet us at www.twitter.com/usfsarp or visit us on Facebook either at www.facebook.com/usfsarp or Grand County National Public Lands Day.

We also want our site to be better at conservation, and leave less of a carbon footprint. To help us, we are asking our volunteers again this year to bring along a cloth or canvas tote bag to collect our little “goodies”, a reusable water bottle and their own lunch so we can eliminate our need for plastic bags and water bottles. Please carpool wherever possible. Volunteers can seek out carpooling opportunities on our Grand County National Public Lands Day Facebook page as drivers or riders.

Additional Information

The Interagency Fee Council has once again issued a special national, interagency free coupon in appreciation to all NPLD participants. The coupon is awarded to each volunteer, 16 years or older, upon registering at any participating NPLD event site on September 30, 2017. The coupons are valid for one day of entrance or day-use fees at participating federal land management agencies where the America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass is accepted (a list of agencies is shown on the coupon). The coupon is not valid at any concessionaire managed sites that do not honor the Interagency Pass and can not be used as a “discount” towards any annual or interagency pass purchase. Volunteers may use the voucher as “cash” at day-use areas having an envelope/fee tube setup where they would normally purchase a daily pass. Coupon holders may also redeem the voucher at any District office, visitor center, fee or entrance station, or by mailing the coupon to the federal land agency to exchange for a normal one day pass for their favorite area. The coupon must be used by September 21, 2018.

Please confirm ahead if you are planning on bringing a large group of 20 or more people by contacting either the USDA Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or Headwaters Trails Alliance (HTA) at the numbers listed below. We look forward to seeing you at one of our work sites!

Headwaters Trails Alliance

Erica Bean

Phone: (970) 726-1013

Fax:

Email: hta@headwaterstrails.org

USDA Forest Service

BJ Duffy

Phone: (970) 887-4120

Fax: (970) 887-4102

Email: bjduffy@fs.fed.us

BLM Kremmling Office

John Monkouski

Phone: (970) 724-3040

Fax: (970) 724-3066

Email: jmonkous@blm.gov

NPS Rocky Mountain National Park

Ken Rybkiewicz

Phone: (970) 586-1532

Fax:

Email: ken_rybkiewicz@nps.gov

If you are unable to attend this year’s event, but would still like to contribute, donations can be sent directly to HTA at PO Box 946; Granby, CO 80446-0946, or by contacting Erica Bean at (970) 726-1013. A donation form is attached for your convenience towards the end of this packet. HTA is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization and all donations are fully tax deductible. Please make note for funds to be designated for NPLD. Thank you again for your continued support and contribution to enhance your public lands.

Projects

Nationwide NPLD 2016 had over 200,000 participants working in 2,600 registered sites and valued at \$18 million dollars. National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) is hoping we can top that this year. Grand County has the distinction of being NEEF’s largest, longest, continuous running event. Our success is because of you and others like you who have contributed tremendous support in donating time, money, materials, labor and food every year. We have accomplished so much in 22 years with your assistance. All of us here in Grand County extend our appreciation for your continued support and hope to see you again on September 30th for our 23rd NPLD event.

One of the reasons our site is so popular is because we provide a variety of work sites to accommodate everyone's passion. This year we have four (4) project work sites. A brief description of projects is listed below. Please indicate which project stirs your interest and record it on the attached volunteer sheet (last page in packet). **Then either mail, fax or E-mail it in to us by Friday, September 22, 2017.** Address and fax number are on the confirmation sheet. You may still choose another project site on event day at registration, but a few of our projects have size limitations. Early confirmation helps us to plan for work crew distribution and meals.

- **Lower Tonahutu [NPS]:** Building a turnpike (elevated bridge) and tread on a non-motorized trail. Site will accommodate 35 volunteers. Skill rating: MODERATE TO DIFFICULT
- **Middle Supply Creek Motorized Trail [USFS]:** Constructing a 60' turnpike with approaches on a dual-track trail. Need 30 hardworking volunteers who like to build things and get dirty! Skill rating: MODERATE TO DIFFICULT
- **Strawberry Trails [BLM/HTA]:** Normal trail maintenance to include improvements and sustainability projects. Site will accommodate 35+ volunteers. Skill Rating: MODERATE TO DIFFICULT
- **Upper Colorado River Cleanup [BLM]:** Join the BLM in the 8th Annual River Cleanup, clearing trash and debris along a 19 mile-three-section stretch of the Colorado River, beginning at Pumphouse Recreation Area to Two Rivers. All work is accessed by floating the river. Space is available for approximately 50 volunteers who do not have their own boats with pre-registration highly recommended. If you are providing your own boat, then pre-registration is not necessary. Volunteers can meet at Pumphouse Recreation Area instead of the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch. Volunteers may choose between a volunteer appreciation BBQ at Pumphouse or the main party at the Camp Chief Ouray Nordic Center at the end of the day. This is a family-friendly work site. Participants are encouraged to bring their own boats, PFDs, and/or paddles. For more information or to pre-register, contact John Monkouski at (970) 724-3040. Skill rating: EASY TOMODERATE





Saturday, September 30, 2017
Granby, Colorado
Event Day Information

Welcome to Grand County's 23rd National Public Lands Day!!!

We are expecting a large number of people participating at our work sites and it is important for everyone to do their part in preparing themselves and their gear for the day. Please read this information carefully. If you have any questions, please contact BJ Duffy at (970) 887-4120 [USFS Sulphur Ranger District], John Monkouski at (970) 724-3040 [BLM Kremmling District Office], Ken Rybkiewicz at (970) 586-1532 [NPS Rocky Mountain National Park] or Meara McQuain at (970) 726-1013 [Headwaters Trails Alliance]. You may also find general event information by visiting the national website at: www.publiclandsday.org or the USDA Forest Service website at: www.fs.usda.gov/arp.

PLEASE NOTE: THE VENUE FOR THIS YEAR'S NPLD REGISTRATION AND VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER WILL BE HELD AT CAMP CHIEF OURAY (NORDIC CENTER), PART OF THE YMCA SNOW MOUNTAIN RANCH FACILITY. ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUESTED TO MEET AGENCY PERSONNEL AT CAMP CHIEF OURAY ON EVENT DAY AND NOT AT SITE LOCATIONS.

Directions to Registration at the YMCA Camp Chief Ouray building:

From Denver: Take I-70 west to exit 232 for US Highway 40. Proceed through Empire, Berthoud Falls, over Berthoud Pass then through the towns of Winter Park, Fraser and Tabernash. Continue west on US Hwy 40 and turn left after mile post 220 onto the entrance road (CR 53) to the YMCA/Snow Mountain Ranch area. Travel on CR 53 or Just Lane (main road) past the 4 way stop for approximately 1.7 miles. Turn right onto CR 5361 at the Camp Chief Ouray sign and continue for another 0.4 mile to arrive at the Nordic center parking lot. Camp Chief Ouray is approximately 2 hours driving time from Denver.

From Estes Park: Travel west on US Highway 34, through Big Thompson Canyon, Rocky Mountain National Park and Grand Lake until you reach the intersection with US Highway 40 just west of Granby. Turn east (left) onto US Hwy 40 and drive about 8 miles to just after mile post 219. Turn right onto the YMCA/Snow Mountain Ranch entrance road (CR 53). Continue straight on CR 53 or Just Lane (main road) past the 4 way stop for approximately 1.7 miles. Turn right onto CR 5361 at the Camp Chief Ouray sign and continue for another 0.4 mile to arrive at the Nordic center parking lot. Driving time from Estes Park is approximately 2.5 hours (total distance from Granby is approximately 7 miles).

Where to Stay

YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch is offering a 20% discount off their lodge room and campsite prices for the nights of September 29 and 30. For reservations contact Snow Mountain Ranch at (800) 777-9622 and use code words "Public Lands Day". Other area lodging may not be available at a discount for this event, but it is off-season. To obtain information regarding other area lodging facilities and for any other questions, the following Chambers of Commerce will be happy to help you: Winter Park/Fraser Valley Chamber at (800) 903-7275; Granby Chamber at (970) 887-2311, Grand Lake Chamber at (970) 627-3402; or the Kremmling Chamber at (970) 724-3482.

Campgrounds

The USFS and NPS campgrounds are usually open with reduced services and with some closures this time of year. **Timber Creek Campground** in Rocky Mountain National Park will be left open for Friday and Saturday nights. If a Park Ranger or campground host should stop by, the password for free camping is "**National Public Lands Day**". However, there will only be a few sites available and they will be on a first come, first serve, "reduced services" basis, since the regular season is over. This means that there will be no water, trash pick-up or regular toilet facility maintenance (for example, no toilet paper). Only campsite and restrooms will be provided. Campers will be responsible to "pack it in and pack it out" and be prepared with your own necessities. The gates may swing shut, but will be unlocked. Please leave gates closed so as not to invite non-NPLD participants to take camping spots free of charge. There are many other campgrounds and dispersed camping areas near this year's event sites. For more information call the Sulphur Ranger District at (970) 887-4100.

The Day of the Event Schedule (Saturday, September 30th)

07:00am	Registration at Camp Chief Ouray Nordic Center and continental breakfast
07:45am	Buses or vans depart for work sites
08:30am	Buses or vans arrive at work sites
12:00pm	Lunch on the trail
04:30pm	Buses or vans leave work sites and return to the Camp Chief Ouray Nordic Center
05:00-09:00pm	Appetizers, dinner, door prizes, party and live music or DJ

What You Will Be Doing

Volunteers will be divided into crews of approximately 15 people during registration, and a variety of physical tasks will be assigned. Each work site has a difficulty rating, and crew bosses will be available to describe details of the work. Safety sessions will occur before any work begins. If you are interested in off-trail work or are unable to perform physical labor, please let us know. We may have some administrative and food preparation duties available. Arrive early at registration and a coordinator will try to accommodate your volunteer preferences.

What to Wear

The work sites are in high, mountainous areas so be prepared for cold, warm, wet or dry weather!! NPLD will not be postponed or rescheduled unless weather conditions are severe. Dress in layers and avoid cotton fabrics if you can. We suggest a change of clothing for the dinner and party.

What to Bring

Rain gear (jacket, pants)

Insect repellent

Sunglasses

Long-sleeved shirt

Drinking water & sack lunch

Tote bag

Sturdy leather gloves

Sunscreen

Cap or hat

Sturdy work pants (no shorts)

Special food needs or medications (if necessary)

Sturdy work boots (no sneakers or sandals)

Safety

Safety is always our first concern. We will avoid putting you in hazardous situations, but please keep in mind our area has been decimated by a mountain pine beetle infestation. Be aware of your surroundings at all times while navigating our trails. In addition, we will have several people monitoring work throughout the day to spot and correct unsafe conditions.

The work sites are remote. All are at or above 8,500 feet in elevation. If you have a condition that restricts your activity, please let your crew boss know. There are a wide variety of tasks to be done. We will find something appropriate for you. If one of the Crew Leaders or Safety Officers feels that you are poorly equipped or are physically unsuited for arduous work, we reserve the right to ask you to perform tasks that minimize risk.

For safety and liability reasons, there are age limits for volunteers. For those over 18 years of age, your signature at the time of registration is sufficient. For those 16 to 18 years old, we need a co-signature of a parent or guardian to work on the trails. Children between the ages of 12 and 16 may accompany their parents or guardians, but must be under direct supervision and will not be covered by any of the agencies in the event of illness or incidental injury attributable to the work project. Because access and parking are limited at most work sites, all participants must ride buses or vans to their work sites, or first check with agency staff. Due to the nature of physical maintenance on the projects, we can not assume the responsibility for children under the age of 12.

Day Care

We do not know of any Day Care Providers in the Valley that take drop-ins at this time. You can call the Winter Park/Fraser Valley Chamber of Commerce to see if they have an updated list of local babysitters at (970) 726-4118, the Colorado State Workforce Center at (970) 887-1857 or post an ad on Grand county Online Garage Sale.



Other Information

Please leave your pets, horses, llamas or other animals at home for the day. Pets may create unsafe conditions at the work sites distracting the participants, and may not be welcome by other volunteers. In addition, please leave skateboards, roller blades and other recreational equipment at home, hotel or campsite. Even though it is fun to “play” during lunch with this equipment, the use also creates a safety hazard in some areas.

The Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Headwaters Trails Alliance and other partners will supply you with tools, hard hats, goggles, and other protective gear depending on your trail work duties.

Only breakfast and dinner will be provided by several of our generous sponsors and partners. ***Please bring your own sack lunch.***

Please be on time! We can not detain buses/vans and other crews while waiting for late arrivals. If you are unavoidably delayed, there will be someone at the registration area who can assist you and make sure you get to a work site, but you may not have a choice of location. There is not enough space at the trailheads for volunteers to drive their personal vehicles to the work sites.

Thanks to all of our 100+ local contributors who help make our NPLD event possible. Without your generous donations our NPLD event would not be as successful. Volunteers please visit our local shops and restaurants and thank them for their continued support in protecting our public lands. A slide show of all of our gracious sponsors will be presented at our evening dinner ceremony.





Participant Release Form

General Information

Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Age (if a minor)

Parent/Legal Guardian Name (if a minor)

Street Address

City, State, and Zip Code

Email

Phone Number

Signed Media and Information Release

Minors (under the age of 18) must have a parent/legal guardian sign below.

I give to the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation, operating as the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF), its assigns, nominees and agents unlimited permission to use, publish, republish and share with media, partners and sponsors, information about me and video, photographic or digital images and reproductions of my likeness (photographic, video, or otherwise) and my voice, whether or not related to any affiliation with the National Environmental Education Foundation, with or without my name, solely for the advancement and promotion of environmental education.

Signature

Date

Signature of parent/legal guardian (if a minor)

Date



Celebrating 23 years in Grand County, Colorado
September 30, 2017
Volunteer Sheet

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

(for minors under 18 years)

Project Site Name: _____

Optional:

1. How did you hear about our NPLD event? What can we do to improve our event? What type of project would you like us to do next year?
2. May we have your permission to use any photos taken by our photographers on event day?

Demographic Information for Agency Reports and Grant Applications

Sex:	Male	_____	Female	_____	
Age Group:	Under 21	_____	21 to 54	_____	55& Above _____
Ethnic Group:	White	_____	African-American	_____	Asian _____
	Hispanic	_____	Native American	_____	Other _____

Please return this sheet by Friday, September 22, 2017 to:

USDA Forest Service
PO Box 10
Granby, CO 80446-0010
Telephone: (970) 887-4120; Fax: (970) 887-4102; E-mail: bjduffy@fs.fed.us