

# Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas

## Celebrate National Public Lands Day

[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com) [www.tn.gov/environment/na](http://www.tn.gov/environment/na)



### National Public

Lands Day began in 1994 with three federal agencies and 700 volunteers. This annual day of caring for shared lands has now grown to involve more than 100,000 volunteers at more than 1,800 locations in every state across the nation.



Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas

**THANKS**

our many volunteers and Friends Groups for their hard work and support.



*National Public Lands Day is Saturday September 24. Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas have been strong supporters of National Public Lands Day in the past and their participation continues again this year. As this day seeks to build partnerships between public land managers and local communities, particular attention is being placed on exotic/invasive plant removal and management in public lands this year.*

National Public Lands Day projects on Saturday, September 24 include:

#### **Bledsoe Creek hosts Public Lands Work Day**

Join the Friends of Bledsoe Creek to remove rock, reroute a ditch and cleanaway debris. Dress in weather appropriate clothing and bring gloves. Meet at the shop at the end of Deer Run Road at 9 a.m. CT. For more information email Sharon Armistead at 615-347-3639 or the park at 615-452-3706.

#### **Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts Public Lands Work Day/Hike**

Join the park for a rewarding morning of trail work followed by a guided hike on the Bunkum Cave Trail. Assistance is needed to maintain this beautiful trail! Long pants and boots are recommended. Snacks, water, work gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at 9 a.m. CT at the trailhead. For more information call 931-864-3247.

#### **Cumberland Mountain hosts Ozone Falls State Natural Area Work Day**

Join the Friends of Cumberland Mountain at Ozone Falls State Natural Area from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CT to do some trail maintenance. This will include trimming back the trail, cutting invasive plants, picking up trash, learning a little bit of history of the area, and enjoying a short but steep and strenuous hike to the bottom of the falls. Equipment will be provided. Bring food and water. Wear sturdy shoes. Directions for Ozone: From Crossville travel East on I-40 and exit at the Crab Orchard exit. Turn left off the exit ramp and go to the intersection of U.S. Highway 70. From Knoxville go west on I-40 and exist at Crab Orchard. From Crab Orchard exit, turn right on U.S. Highway 70 going east. The highway takes you straight to Ozone Falls, which is on the right about four miles from the interstate exit.

#### **Davy Crockett Birthplace hosts Public Lands Work Day**

Join park staff and community members to observe this important day. NPLD is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands that Americans enjoy. Meet at the campground pavilion at 11 a.m. ET for instructions. For more information please contact Dawn.Coleman@tn.gov or 423-257-2167.

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EVENTS

## Edgar Evins hosts Invasive Plant Workshop

Learn to identify invasive plants in the park and how to safely remove them. This workshop includes both classroom and hands-on plant removal in the park. Park Ranger, Mark Taylor and State Naturalist, Randy Hedgepath will lead the workshop. Bring work gloves and a sack lunch. Sturdy clothes and footwear are recommended. The workshop will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. CT and is open to ages 11 and older. Friends and park staff will be available to lead additional scout groups and individuals if needed. Please contact Fount Bertram at 765-5357 or e-mail [fwbertram@dtccom.net](mailto:fwbertram@dtccom.net) to sign up and for the details.

## Johnsonville State Historic Park Lake Shore Clean Up!

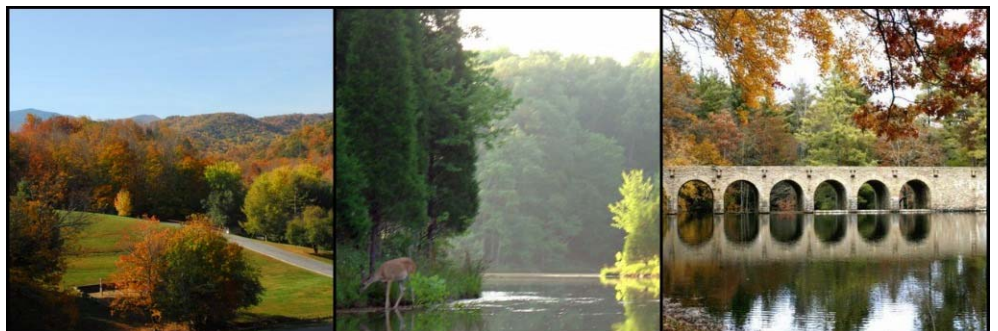
In celebration of National Public Lands Day, please join the Friends of Johnsonville and Johnsonville State Park for a morning clean up of historic and non-historic lakeshore trash that is remaining from the spring floods. Please wear long pants and footwear that can get muddy and wet. Trash bags, gloves, water and snacks will be provided. We will meet at the lake-side parking area at 9 a.m. CT. For more information please email [Jerry.Wooten@tn.gov](mailto:Jerry.Wooten@tn.gov) or call the park at 931-535-2789.

## Norris Dam hosts Public Lands Restoration Project

Civilian Conservation Corps Company 494 had a work camp on what is now part of Norris Dam State Park. This historic area has numerous stone features still standing that are a part of program efforts to tell the story of the "CCC boys". Recently acquired photos of the camp in its operational period show the whereabouts of other buildings and activity areas. We will be working on finding old foundations, rock steps, pits, cisterns, and other landmarks from the photos. A large area in the camp has river cane growing out of control. Hardy volunteers will take on the task of clearing and removing some of this cane to reveal a large stone encased ditch that runs through the center of the camp. G.P.S. units will also be in use to mark and map the site. Work will begin at 8:00 a.m. ET and continue into the afternoon as long as the work crew is present, so you may come any time. Contact Mark Morgan at 865.426.7461 for more information.

## Radnor Lake State Natural Area Work Day

Staff and Friends of Radnor Lake will be out on the trails, removing invasive species and other general maintenance. For more information email [jesse.germeraad@tn.gov](mailto:jesse.germeraad@tn.gov) or call 615-373-3467.



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## Riverwood State Natural Area Work Day!!

Riverwoods is a 21-acre natural area located along the Wolf River in Germantown just outside of Memphis in Shelby County. Volunteers are needed to help remove by cutting and herbicide application exotic/invasive species that have colonized in the area due to channelization of the Wolf River. Privet and Japanese honeysuckle are by far the most common in fact some areas contain almost nothing but privet in the understory and Japanese honeysuckle as a ground cover plant. We do not expect to eradicate exotics from the area, but we do expect to gain some control over these plants. Areas where we work will be monitored after removal of exotics. Reservations are required. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. and work til noon CT. Please bring gloves and loppers and or hand-saws to cut privet stems. Bring a snack and come prepared for variable weather, from cool to hot, and dry to rainy. For more information about Riverwoods State Natural Area, see: <http://state.tn.us/environment/na/natareas/riverwoods/>. For more information and to RSVP contact Allan Trently at [allan.trently@tn.gov](mailto:allan.trently@tn.gov) or 731-512-1369.

## Virgin Falls State Natural Area Back Country Cleanup

Journey through the scenic beauty of one of Tennessee's best-loved hiking trails at Virgin Falls State Natural Area, in White County. We will meet at 10 a.m. CT and take the strenuous 8-mile trail to the falls. This trail descends off of the Plateau, and meanders along a creek passing caves, sinks, and waterfalls. We will be picking up trash and cleaning up as we go and packing it out. We will have lunch at the falls, which is remarkable due to the water pouring out of a cave mouth at the top of a bluff then falling over a hundred feet before being swallowed up by a sinkhole at the bottom. The trail then backtracks up and out of the gulf to the parking area. We will not go if it is raining or it is predicted to rain. Consult a weather report before the trip. Dress in layers, wear sturdy boots, and bring plenty of water and lunch. As with any strenuous backcountry hiking trip, please do not attempt this hike unless you are in good condition and able to negotiate difficult trail situations. For more information, including descriptions, directions, and maps, about this as well as any other State Natural Area, visit the State Park Resource Management Division web site at: [www.tdec.net/na](http://www.tdec.net/na). Reservations are required. Please contact Forrest Evans to RSVP at 615-289-4995.

