

National Public Lands Day



Impact Report 2023

30th ANNUAL

The National Environmental Education Foundation is proud to recap an impactful 30th annual National Public Lands Day (NPLD), the nation's largest single-day volunteer event for public lands. More at: neefusa.org/npld.

National Public Lands Day by the Numbers

National



BLM



“We partnered with the Friends of Lincoln Park, Milwaukee Riverkeeper, and Nearby Nature to celebrate this year's National Public Lands Day on the banks of the Milwaukee River. Partnership events like these help us connect community members to the River and expand BLM's mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

*Danielle Donkersloot,
Natural Resource Specialist
BLM Northeastern States District Office*



National Conservation Impact



BLM Conservation Impact



National Focus Areas

The following events were exemplary at showcasing our 2023 National Focus Areas for the event.



Community Building & Volunteer Dedication

Postponed due to inclement weather, the rain date for National Public Lands Day with the Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, the National Park Service, and NEEF was a success! Volunteers supported stewardship projects all over the garden property, including invasive plant removal, litter collection, flower bed weeding, trail maintenance, and more.



Physical & Mental Health

NatureZen Month, hosted by Overton Park Conservancy in Memphis, Tennessee, featured a service day in the suite of mental well-being programs and events. NatureZen Month celebrates what our public lands can do for our mental and physical health with fun, free health and wellness events.



Environmental Education & Partnerships

NEEF hosted a national iNaturalist challenge this year, leveraging our national platform to expand engagement through citizen science.

In the under-resourced community of West Dallas, NEEF kicked off a three-year partnership with Toyota focused on improving Fish Trap Lake Park and implementing a Greening STEM project with local fifth- and sixth-graders. In celebration, youth from the community were invited to participate in a hands-on macroinvertebrate water sampling activity.

Thank you for your support!

Save the date for National Public Lands Day
September 28, 2024

BLM Event Highlights



A Story of Success: Inclusive Adventure and Partnerships at Lincoln Park

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Wilderness Inquiry (WI), and Friends of Lincoln Park teamed up for a free Canoemobile event at Lincoln Park in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 100 kids and community members learned about the wildlife and plant life in the park and had the option to paddle the Milwaukee River on massive Wilderness Inquiry wooden canoes. Volunteers of all ability levels were able to paddle on the river—some for the first time ever!



Community Collaboration to Restore Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Area

The Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area hosted its 30th National Public Lands Day event. Over 200 hundred volunteers helped clean trash from the 120-acre site, removed invasives and nuisance plants from both the north and the south sides, and created an awesome camping area to host scouts as they learned about archaeology, natural resources, and stewardship. 20 partner organizations educated the community about local history and environmental concerns and the programs that address them. This event inspired people of all ages to find ways to interact with the natural, cultural, and historic areas both recreationally and as future volunteers.



From Clean-up to Full-scale Conservation of the Platte River

What started as a community river clean-up has since transformed into a broader effort to improve and restore the North Platte River through Casper, Wyoming! This year, 159 dedicated volunteers came together to collect an impressive 180 pounds of trash and played a vital role in restoring approximately 100 acres of public land near the river by removing hundreds of invasive Russian olive tree regrowth. This event and the larger restoration are a prime illustration of how local agencies and BLM Field Offices can effectively collaborate.