

DoD Funds National Public Lands Day Projects on 30 Military Installations

2015 NPLD Press Release

The Department of Defense (DoD) celebrated National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on September 26 with a variety of projects across the U.S. and Puerto Rico. DoD funded [30 NPLD projects](#) on 30 military installations across 16 states. Projects enhanced cultural resources, maintained pollinator ecosystems, revitalized natural areas, and more. This year, 26 of those 30 projects benefitted pollinator species and supported the [National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators](#), which the White House released in May. DoD's contributions help the number of NPLD volunteers grow every year.

“Thousands of volunteers will visit their favorite parks, beaches, wildlife preserves or forests and chip in to help improve the lands and facilities that all Americans own, and that we use for recreation, education, exercise and just plain enjoyment,” said Diane Wood, President of the [National Environmental Education Foundation](#) (NEEF), before the event. “One third of America's land is in public hands and NPLD offers everyone an opportunity to explore and give back.”

In 2015, military installations submitted 35 NPLD applications to NEEF for [DoD Natural Resources Program](#) funding through the program's funding arm, the [Legacy Resource Management Program](#) (Legacy Program). The selected installations received up to \$6,500 for base-level volunteer work on DoD sites during NPLD.

The Legacy Program has awarded over \$2 million to benefit a wide array of natural and cultural resources projects on military lands since 1999. NPLD leverages a 5:1 return on investment to DoD in volunteer hours and other contributions.

Many military installations hosted projects on Saturday, September 26, but a few events will occur on alternative days until December.

To learn about different ways to get involved or to receive NPLD e-news updates, email legacy@neefusa.org.