

TAKE PRIDE[®] IN AMERICA



It's Your Land, Lend A Hand

TAKE PRIDE AWARD WINNERS IN NINE CATEGORIES ANNOUNCED

It was no easy task for our panel of distinguished judges, including Desiree Sayle, Director of the USA Freedom Corps, and Dr. Michael Suk, Department of the Interior White House Fellow, but the winners of this year's annual National Take Pride in America Awards have been selected.

Winners in nine categories were announced during a live videoconference with Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and Take Pride Executive Director Marti Allbright August 23. Other winners will be announced throughout September, with the awards program capstone being our national awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. September 21.

"With so many wonderful and worthy applications this year, it's a shame we can't recognize all the terrific public land volunteer projects from across the country," said Allbright. "The 2004 winners, however, certainly exemplify the country's best in public lands stewardship, and I encourage those not selected this year to consider applying again in 2005."

Winners announced during the videoconference include:

Faith Based

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Mililani, Hawaii

Federal Volunteer Program

- Trash Tracker Program; Page, Ariz.
- Tumacácori National Historical Park; Tumacácori, Ariz.
- BLM Roseburg District Volunteer Program; Roseburg, Ore.

Individual

- Neil Stephen Flanagan; Washington, D.C.
- Irene DeLaby; Homosassa Springs, Fla.

Local Government

- Presque Isle State Park Volunteers; Erie, Pa.
- Bountiful City; Bountiful, Utah

Non-Profit

- Friends of Lake Louisa State Park; Clermont, Fla.
- Coastal Wildlife Club Inc.; Englewood, Fla.
- Illinois Natural Area Guardians; Amboy, Ill.
- Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association; Auburn, Wash.

Public/Private Partnership

- Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado; Denver, Colo.
- Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition; Slippery Rock, Pa.

School

- Ainsworth Nebraska Community School; Long Pine, Neb.

State

- Take Pride in Utah

Youth

- Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy; Augusta, Ga.
- Boy Scout Troop #46; Winston, Ore.

With 15 winners participating in the videoconference from Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Nebraska, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah and Washington D.C., the Secretary

congratulated the honorees and spoke about the importance of public stewardship. Reporters were also invited to watch the videoconference and meet their hometown heroes in person at sites across the country.

"The cornerstone of Take Pride is the belief that individuals need to be engaged to take responsibility for improving their community environment," Norton said. "At Interior we call it 'cooperative conservation,' and Take Pride's award-winning volunteers are helping to turn this philosophy into action."

"Take Pride is delighted to honor outstanding volunteers with backgrounds as varied as that of a native D.C. Eagle Scout and a Floridian with a volunteer award given by the state in her honor," said Allbright. "I look forward to meeting all the winners at the upcoming awards festivities."

National Awards Ceremony Activities

Events surrounding our national awards ceremony are coming together nicely. Here are some highlights:

Monday September 20, 2004

Afternoon – DC Tour

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – Reception

Tuesday September 21, 2004

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – Awards Ceremony

If you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Tate at Kirsten_Tate@ios.doi.gov or (202) 208-5848.

GET READY TO GET DIRTY – NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY IS SEPTEMBER 18

Thousands of volunteers in every state will put their hands to work on September 18 in a coast-to-coast effort to improve and enhance our treasured lands. National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest

hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands American's enjoy.

Last year nearly 80,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants. Roll up your sleeves and pitch in on the 11th annual National Public Lands Day!

For information on how to participate in your community, visit <http://www.npld.com>.

For the first time, volunteers who pitch in at a site managed by the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or U.S. Forest Service on National Public Lands Day will be rewarded with one fee-free day valid through National Public Lands Day 2005. The fee-free coupon can later be redeemed, with no entrance or day use fees assessed, at a property of one of those participating land management agencies. This serves as a "thank you" to those outstanding volunteers of our national parks, forests and wildlife refuges.

"The fee-free day has been something we've been working toward for several years," said Patti Pride, Director of National Public Lands Day. "Our goal was to reward our volunteers with a free day at the public land site of their choice."

The fee-free day was initiated by National Public Lands Day and co-sponsored by Take Pride in America. National Public Lands Day is being sponsored for the sixth consecutive year by Toyota Motor Sales USA.

TAKE PRIDE IN UTAH HOSTS 2004 TAKE PRIDE WESTERN STATES TOUR

As part of the 2004 Take Pride in America Western States Tour, co-sponsored in part by Take Pride Charter Partners Unilever &

Monaco Coach Corporation, the program's Executive Director, Marti Allbright, and Justin Hall, from Take Pride's Denver office, spent August 25 and 26 in Utah with Darin Bird, Assistant Director of the state's Department of Natural Resources, and Jason Curry, Take Pride in Utah Coordinator.

The quartet met with mayors who have made their communities Take Pride in America Cities, attended the Davis County Council of Governments Meeting, and enlisted the support of Senators Orrin Hatch and Robert Bennett, and Congressmen Rob Bishop, Chris Cannon and Jim Matheson.

The group also went on several tours and pitched in on volunteer activities, like tree plantings in the Cities of Vernal, Duchesne and Roosevelt and trail work in Wasatch-Cache National Forest. A highlight of the trip was a volunteer appreciation ceremony and Take Pride Cities Certificate Presentation at This is the Place Heritage Park, part of the Utah State Parks system, on August 26.

Other special stops included tours of:

- Wasatch-Cache National Forest with Sandra Kester, representing Senator Hatch; Ben Horsley, representing Congressman Bishop; and Rob Cruz, Logan District Ranger, Wasatch-Cache National Forest;
- Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge with Refuge Director Al Trout and staff; and
- Jordanelle State Park Interpretive Center, where much of the construction and up keep is done by volunteers.

Our many thanks to Darin and Jason for organizing such a productive Take Pride trip. If you would like information on how to emulate the spirit of Take Pride in Utah in your state, please contact Jason Curry at jasoncurry@utah.gov or (801) 538-7302.

17 Utah Communities Now Take Pride in America Cities

Seventeen Utah communities and Old Deseret Village at This Is the Place Heritage Park were designated as Take Pride in America Cities this month. Marti Allbright presented the mayors of each community a certificate of participation during the 2004 Take Pride in America Western States Tour's swing through Utah.

"Thanks in large part to the energy and success of the Take Pride in Utah program, over a dozen Utah mayors will promote an ethic of public stewardship in their communities," said Marti Allbright.

A Take Pride in America City designation is bestowed upon a city or municipality that supports the mission and goals of Take Pride. The city then agrees to sponsor two or more events such as an award ceremony or a clean-up event in its community. Take Pride in America Cities in Utah include:

Bountiful City	Midvale
Centerville City	Murray
City of Provo	North Salt Lake City
City of Taylorsville	Old Deseret Village
Clearfield City	Park City
Duchesne City	Roosevelt City
Farmington City	Sandy City
Fruit Heights City	Vernal City
Kaysville City	West Valley City

GIRLS SCOUTS TO UNVEIL "GET WITH THE LAND" PATCH PROGRAM

The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. hosted a Linking Girls to the Land Interagency Meeting in Shepherdstown, W. Va. on August 26 to discuss projects and activities Girl Scouts could do to promote public land stewardship. Michelle Cangelosi, Director of Government and Community Relations for Take Pride, joined Jodi Stewart, with the national Girls Scouts office, and

representatives from other federal land management agencies at the day-long meeting.

Highlights of the meeting were the soon to be released Get with the Land patch program and the 2005 Linking Girls to the Land Council Grants. Volunteer service is one of only three project grant categories that Councils may apply for on the Linking Girls to the Land Grant Application. Take Pride is anxious to help Councils become Take Pride volunteer groups, and is encouraged that Scouts across the country want to Lend a Hand to our public lands.

For more information about the interagency partnership Linking Girls to the Land, visit www.epa.gov/linkinggirls.

SECRETARY NORTON SPOKE TO RECREATIONAL VEHICLE OWNERS IN REDMOND, OREGON

Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton addressed thousands of members of the Family Motor Coach Association, a Take Pride Charter Partner, August 19 at their 72nd International Convention in Redmond, Ore.

"As the secretary in charge of our national park system, it was a real honor to meet and talk with so many people from a group that so often recreates on public lands," said Secretary Norton. "I know that they – along with all recreational users – share with me a special fondness for and sense of ownership of our national parks and other public lands."

Secretary Norton discussed the state of America's national parks, reminding them of the record investment President Bush has made in America's national parks.

In addition, Secretary Norton urged the RV owners to become involved in the Take Pride in America program.

"From Oregon to Florida and Maine to Hawaii, people have signed up to volunteer on public lands and waters to make the places we relax, play and visit better for all Americans," said Secretary Norton. "They are making a real difference."

Michelle Cangelosi, Director of Government and Community Relations for Take Pride, gave a presentation to FMCA members, encouraging travelers to take Take Pride's mission on the road when they travel. She explained how to get involved in volunteer opportunities in the communities they visit.

MONACO COACH CORPORATION WELCOMED SECRETARY NORTON TO ITS RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PLANT

On August 19, Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton visited the Take Pride Charter Partner Monaco Coach Corporation's manufacturing facilities in Coburg, Ore. The Secretary toured the plant and spoke to employees about Take Pride's mission and call to service.

"[Take Pride in America] is important to us as a company, to our more than 5,000 employees, to our dealers and to our customers," said Kay Toolson, Chairman and Chief Executive officer of Monaco Coach Corporation. "We are honored to have Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton visit our plant and provide an opportunity for our employees to learn first hand about this important volunteer initiative that will further improve outdoor recreational opportunities for all Americans."

CAMP JEEP INCLUDES TAKE PRIDE CLEANUP IN LOS PADRES

On August 21, deep in the Los Padres National Forest, a group of dedicated Jeep owners left the enticing grounds of Camp Jeep California, to participate in a trail ride and Take Pride in America volunteer cleanup. The group of off road enthusiasts, lead by Kerry Kellogg of the Los Padres, and Justin Hall of Take Pride in America, traversed the picturesque Camino Cielo ridge road in the Santa Ynez Mountains, and helped beautify the area along the way by collecting three truckloads of trash! Jeep owners were excited by the opportunity to combine driving fun with volunteerism, and the Los Padres is now much cleaner due to their efforts.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

We would like to hear from you about the volunteer activities you are hosting, please email us photos and a brief summary to: TakePride@ios.doi.gov.

Haleakalā National Park Celebrates A Birthday with Take Pride Event

On August 1, Haleakalā National Park, in Makawao, Maui, held a Take Pride in America event, "Ha'oli la hanau o Haleakalā," to celebrate the 88th birthday of Haleakalā National Park. Volunteers cleaned a wilderness cabin, completed a resource manual for staff supervisors and removed invasive weeds from locations within the park. All in all, the park benefited from over 50 hours of volunteer work.

The volunteer event was made possible thanks in part to a \$500 National Park System Take Pride Steward grant. The funds went toward gloves, safety glasses, tools, commemoration pins, and posters and flyers for the event. The Friends of

Haleakalā helped purchase cake for the celebratory volunteer event.

If you would like more information on volunteer activities at Haleakala National Park, please visit their website at www.nps.gov/hale.

Oak Hill, Ohio's Lunger Hunter Bass Club Takes Pride in America and Jackson Lake

The Oak Hill Lunger Hunter Bass Club recently completed two projects at Jackson Lake State Park, located in southern Ohio. The first project, a Youth Fishing Tournament, is held at Jackson Lake every year. The club also hosted a Take Pride in America volunteer event, with members clearing, cleaning, seeding and landscaping at the park's Furnace Area. By day's end it was obvious what a difference a day makes. The improved view of Jackson Lake from the Shelter House is sure to be appreciated by everyone who visits this part of the park.