

# TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA®

*It's Your Land, Lend A Hand*



*Celebrating the launch of Take Pride in April 2003, Interior Secretary Norton helps schoolchildren plant trees along a tributary of the Anacostia River in Washington, DC.*



**TAKE PRIDE®  
IN AMERICA**

[www.TakePride.gov](http://www.TakePride.gov)

*“Volunteers help maintain and sustain our national parks, wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries. They serve as campground hosts, clear trails and collect information for new maps. We couldn't do a good job without them.”*

— Interior Secretary Gale Norton

**TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA®** is a national partnership that aims to seek, support and recognize volunteers who work to improve our public parks, forests, grasslands, wildlife refuges, cultural and historic sites, local playgrounds, and other recreation areas. Part of the President's USA Freedom Corps call to service, Take Pride is an excellent opportunity for citizens and communities to demonstrate local pride, initiative and stewardship. The program, established by the U.S. Department of the Interior, also can energize national and local resource and recreation needs. With more than 100 partners, Take Pride engages federal, state and local governments, conservation and recreation organizers, young people, and top national corporations and organizations.

Together, we can protect and enhance the special legacy all Americans share – nearly 800 million acres of public lands.

With one in every three acres of federally managed land the “property” of the American people, a vast majority of Americans enjoying the great outdoors,

## CALLING ALL AMERICANS

**FACT: One-third of America is public land.**

Source: U.S. Department of the Interior

**FACT: 90% of Americans enjoy outdoor recreation.**

Source: Travel Industry Association of America

**FACT: More than 59 million Americans aged 16 and older volunteer.**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

and many Americans already volunteering, the numbers add up – *It's Your Land, Lend A Hand.*

Take Pride in America calls on all Americans to be stewards of our land. We encourage volunteers from every corner of America to keep our nation beautiful – whether it is at a national forest out west, at a community beach on the Gulf of Mexico or on the sidewalk in front of an urban home.

To discover ways you can make a difference, visit [www.TakePride.gov](http://www.TakePride.gov) or contact us at:

**TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA**

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*My call tonight is for every American to commit at least two years – 4,000 hours over the rest of your lifetime – to the service of your neighbors and your nation... To sustain and extend the best that has emerged in America, I invite you to join the new USA Freedom Corps.*

— President George W. Bush



*Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle, Interior Secretary Norton, and U.S.S. Arizona Memorial Superintendent Douglas Lentz honor a volunteer with the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial.*



*President Bush shows the way. The President lent a hand to volunteer crews repairing trails near Estes Park, Colorado, in 2001.*

*Eighty-two percent of businesses surveyed said that good corporate citizenship helps the bottom line.*

— Center for Corporate Citizenship, Boston College

*Service and volunteerism are an integral part of the American character.*

— President George W. Bush

## HATS OFF TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Believing that credit should be given where credit is due, Take Pride in America sponsors a national awards program and honors volunteers with exceptional service hours.

National awards recognize outstanding stewardship for group and individual volunteer efforts. These awards are presented at a ceremony in Washington, DC in the fall on the basis of nominations made and submitted to Take Pride. For more information about the national awards program, please log on to [www.TakePride.gov](http://www.TakePride.gov).

Take Pride also recognizes persons who have made extraordinary personal commitments to volunteering. In cooperation with the White House, the Secretary of the Interior and Bureaus within the Department of the Interior, Take Pride presents awards for significant long-term volunteer commitments. For example, volunteers who have amassed 3,000 hours of volunteer service are presented The Secretarial Award.

## OUR PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

More than 100 Charter Partners – including major corporations, conservation groups, youth and service organizations, and trade associations – have signed on to help Take Pride in America.

Take Pride also provides participation opportunities at the state and local level. A bipartisan Council of Governors,

chaired by Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne and Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, includes governors whose states have officially joined the program. Take Pride in America Cities are small and large towns alike whose mayors have committed to, among other things, host or sponsor at least two volunteer events per year.

Whether they sponsor a cleanup day, brand a product with the Take Pride logo or publish an article on volunteerism in a newsletter – our partners make Take Pride a successful reality.

## VOLUNTEERING IS FUN AND HEALTHY

Volunteering with Take Pride in America may also help your health. Cleaning riverbanks and building a local playground results in a “win-win” situation – you get active and America gets just that much better.

## WORKING WITH USA FREEDOM CORPS

During the 2002 State of the Union, President George W. Bush announced the creation of USA Freedom Corps. Through this initiative the President wants to encourage every American to get involved in strengthening America’s communities and sharing America’s compassion around the world. Working with USA Freedom Corp, Take Pride in America offers individuals across the country more and better ways to participate in volunteer projects that will make a difference for our public lands.