

Awards & Recognition



Take Pride in America® recognizes outstanding volunteer efforts through a variety of awards, including annual national awards for outstanding projects and events, recognition by elected officials or a Take Pride in America partner, and special thanks for those who have amassed exceptional hours of volunteer service.

National Take Pride in America Awards

Presented annually, national awards recognize specific volunteer projects and efforts in twelve categories. These awards, given for outstanding stewardship of public lands, honor those who best protect and/or enhance our public parks, forests, grasslands, reservoirs, wildlife refuges, cultural and historic sites, local playgrounds, and other recreation areas.

For all award categories, nominations must reflect actual, measurable accomplishments achieved through volunteer service. To be eligible, projects must be “on the ground” activities, rather than advocacy in any form.

Finalists and winners are selected by a panel of reviewers. Winners are honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, DC.

Categories

Individual – This award is given to an individual for a project or on-going commitment that best supports the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Youth/Youth Group – This award is presented to an individual or group of people under the age of 18 whose project or on-going commitment best supports the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

School Program – This award is given to the elementary or secondary school program that best exemplifies creativity and ingenuity in carrying out the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Non-profit Organization – This award is presented to the 501(c)(3) organization whose volunteer event best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Corporation or Business – This award is presented to the corporation or business whose volunteer event best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Public/Private Partnership – This award is presented to the partnership project or on-going volunteer stewardship commitment between a government agency and a private business or corporation, youth, civic or non-profit organization that best meets the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Faith-based Group – This award is presented to a faith-based group for exemplifying and promoting the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Federal Land Managers – This award is presented to the federal land manager who, in the spirit of Take Pride in America, has the most innovative and creative approach to using volunteers.

Federal Volunteer Program/Project – This award is presented to a project hosted by each federal agency partnering with Take Pride in America.

State Event/Program – This award is presented to the state with the project or program that best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Local Government Event/Program – This award is presented to the Take Pride in America City that has exceeded the two volunteer events required each year, as well as best mobilized its community to take on the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Take Pride Partner – This award is presented to a Charter Partner for its outstanding efforts in promoting the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Other Awards

Take Pride in America Garden Award – Garden award winners are selected by the America the Beautiful Fund and presented to recipient(s) whose gardening ingenuity and creativity encourages community involvement in the spirit of Take Pride in America.

Governor's Take Pride Appreciation Award – This award is selected and presented by the Governor or state representative of a participating Take Pride state for the state's project or program that best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Congressional Take Pride Appreciation Award – This award is selected and presented by the participating Senator, Congressional Member or their designee for the project or program in his or her state/district that best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Volunteer Service Hour Recognition

Take Pride in America recognizes exceptional personal commitments to volunteering, in cooperation with USA Freedom Corps and Points of Lights Foundation.

President's Volunteer Service Award – Take Pride in America, in cooperation with the White House, recognizes individuals who have completed more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service on public lands.

Secretarial Take Pride in America Award – Take Pride in America presents a certificate, signed by the Secretary of the Interior, to volunteers with 3,000 hours of volunteer stewardship on public lands.

U.S. Department of Interior Bureau Awards – Bureaus participating in Take Pride in America honor individuals who have completed 2,000 hours of service at a federal site, such as a national park, wildlife refuge, grassland, forest or reservoir.

For More Information...

For more information about Take Pride in America, including the on-line awards application for our annual national awards, please visit www.TakePride.gov. You may also wish to visit www.usafreedomcorps.gov.

If you would like to document your hours of volunteer service on-line, please visit the Friends of Take Pride website at www.TakePride.info.