



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Galveston District

2000 Fort Point Road
P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, Texas 77553-1229

News Release

Public Affairs Office

Phyllis Bledsoe
Marilyn Uhrich
Michele C. Thomas

Release No. _____

Contact: _____

For Release

Immediately

Phone: (409) 766-3900

August 12, 2005

Wallisville Lake Project announces National Public Lands Day event for Sept. 24th

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Wallisville Lake Project announces our 5th annual National Public Lands Day event beginning at 9:00 AM on September 24, 2005. Activities will begin at the Wallisville Project Visitor Center just off I-10 from exits 806 or 807 and south along Lock and Dam Road. Volunteers are being recruited to assist in clean-up efforts along the Trinity River.

Volunteers are asked to wear sturdy comfortable shoes and clothing, hats, bug spray, and sunscreen. Water, gloves, trash bags, and trash picker-uppers will be provided by the Project. After the cleanup, lunch will be provided for all the volunteers.

This is the 12th celebration of the nationwide event designed to bring together some 80,000 volunteers at over 600 sites in what has become the nation's largest volunteer hands-on effort of its kind. Participants can lend a hand to the lands and waters they use to hike, bike, explore, boat, fish, hunt, picnic, or just plain relax.

One of every three acres of land in the US – 600 million acres in all – belongs to the American people. Since 1994, National Public Lands Day has dramatically and increasingly demonstrated Americans' concern for these lands. The first event was sponsored by three federal agencies and attracted 700 volunteers to three sites. Last year, nearly 80,000 volunteers, their community partners, and numerous federal, state, and local agencies contributed \$11 million in improvements at 600 public parks, monuments, wildlife refuges, forests and grasslands, marine sanctuaries, lakes and reservoirs. These workers built or refurbished 400 miles of trails, constructed 30 bridges, planted 35,000 trees and shrubs, cleared nearly 6,000 pounds of invasive plants, and removed close to 285,000 pounds of trash. There are 29 National Public Lands Day sites just in the state of Texas. Nationwide, the US Army Corps of Engineers has National Public Lands Day events at 116 of its Lake Projects.

For more information on how you can become a part of this nationwide effort on a local basis, call the Wallisville Lake Project Visitor Center at 409-389-2285.