

PARK DAY

More than two decades of
Volunteers for History



AMERICAN
BATTLEFIELD
TRUST ★ ★ ★



Volunteers pitch in at Monocacy National Battlefield for Park Day 2019.

MATT BRANT

WHAT IS PARK DAY?

Each spring, thousands of volunteers from across the country tackle hands-on maintenance projects at America's battlefields and historic sites for Park Day. Organized by the American Battlefield Trust, Park Day is devoted to restoring and maintaining our nation's battlefields and historic sites related to the defining conflicts of America's first century. The event inspires volunteers to help protect and maintain places critical to our shared national history — and it promotes the connections between people, preservation and America's past.

WHY VOLUNTEERS?

Land preservation and maintenance costs quickly add up. Park Day is a great opportunity for history lovers and concerned citizens to give back to their communities. Many underfunded historic sites depend on volunteer work for maintenance and upkeep, and Park Day projects can help these places prepare for busy tourist seasons. Each year, Park Day volunteers enable sites to implement projects, both large and small, that are often overlooked or delayed due to limited budgets and small staffs — a win for parks, visitors and volunteers alike. Importantly, individual sites have full control over their Park Day projects, allowing them to determine how best to utilize the people power that Park Day provides.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

Now with more than 20 consecutive years, Park Day encompasses site-specific projects — ranging from trail maintenance to fence building to trash pickup — that help battlefield parks, veterans' cemeteries and historic shrines prepare for heritage visitors now, and in the future. Recent Park Day projects include:

Fort Clinch State Park, Florida: 17 volunteers put in 102 hours of work leveling walkways around the fort and stuffing the few dozen mattresses that are used as part of their living history weekends. The volunteers came from a variety of groups that help the park, from living historians and their friends and family, to the local community.

Johnson's Island Civil War Prison Site, Ohio: 77 volunteers from ages 6 to 80 worked for six hours to clean up the site, remove fallen trees and branches, and landscape the entrance to the site. A tour was also given to all participants.

Princeton Battlefield State Park, New Jersey: About 100 volunteers helped clear brush, maintain trails, and rake. The site also offered a historical interpretation of the Revolutionary War Battle of Princeton.

Monocacy National Battlefield, Maryland: The Trust held a joint event with the Wounded Warrior Project and partner of theirs, the Mission Continues, another veteran-centered organization. About 25 volunteers from both organizations came out to help remove a few hundred feet of historically inaccurate fencing.

2019
PARK DAY
AT A GLANCE:

* 2020 & 2021 events were reduced due to Covid-19.

7,000
VOLUNTEERS

25,000
SERVICE HOURS

161
SITES

32
STATES + D.C.

➤ **SINCE ITS INCEPTION,** Park Day has received widespread support and seen steady growth, and we look forward to continuing the momentum this year and beyond — visit www.battlefields.org/parkday to learn more!