What is Park Day?

Since 1996, the Civil War Trust has sponsored Park Day, an annual hands-on preservation event to help Civil War, Revolutionary War, and War of 1812 battlefields and historic sites take on maintenance projects large and small. Activities are chosen by each participating site to meet its own particular needs and can range from hauling trash to trail building and sign painting.

Activities

Park Day is an opportunity to harness volunteer assistance to improve the quality of your site and prepare for tourism season.

Past Park Day Activities Have Included:

- Landscaping
- Painting
- Trail building
- Trash removal
- Clearing brush
- Relocating artillery
- Planting trees
- Installing trail markers and signage

Important Dates

FEBRUARY 1: Online Registration Due*
FEBRUARY 24: T-Shirt Count Due
APRIL 1: Park Day**
APRIL 28: Post-Event Survey Due

* Locations to be promoted online and in Hallowed Ground magazine
** Please send us your event photos and videos as soon as possible!

Please make sure we have your email address as we will be sending several updates to site managers over the coming months.
**FINDING VOLUNTEERS**

Park Day is about finding volunteers from the surrounding community to come out and pitch in for preservation.

- Your Park Day site will be listed on our website: Civilwar.org/ParkDay where interested volunteers will be able to find a Park Day site near them.
- Post all relevant information on your locations website (if applicable).
- We also encourage you to list your Park Day event at: Volunteermatch.org and similar websites.
- You will find there are numerous volunteers in your area. Look for them in Civil War Round Tables, local conservation groups, reenactment groups, churches, Scout troops, and schools.

**HELP US HELP YOU**

- Send out a news release to local newspapers and TV and radio stations. Be sure to include clear details about your event and let volunteers know how to sign up.
- Use social media to recruit volunteers, generate buzz the day of the event and increase the impact of your Park Day.
- On social, be sure to tag @CivilWarTrust and use the hashtag #ParkDay2017. Ask your audience to sign up to volunteer at Civilwar.org/ParkDay.
- Let us know if local media plans to cover your event by emailing mmartin@civilwar.org, and make sure to share your event photos using #ParkDay2017.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Include all of the following in any Park Day event information you post or send out:

- Date: April 1, 2017
- Contact Information
- Event time
- Site name and address
- Nature of activities
- On-site meeting place

**PARTICIPATING SITES WILL RECEIVE:**

- Park Day T-shirts
- Copies of the Civil War Trust's award-winning magazine, *Hallowed Ground*
- Sign-in sheets to collect volunteer information
- Civil War Trust maps of your site (if applicable)
- Templates to attract volunteers and gain media coverage

**NEW THIS YEAR: CONTESTS**

- Best Park Day Photo
- Best Park Day Volunteer
- Best Park Day Video

Each winner will receive a **$500 prize** for their participating Park Day site to be used for future preservation, maintenance, and/or restoration work! More details to come on how to submit your entries.