

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources



Andrew T. Mack
Commissioner

Elizabeth Bluemink 907.269.8434
Communications Coordinator elizabeth.bluemink@alaska.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Join State Parks and partners for National Trails Day events June 2-3

(Anchorage, AK) – The public is invited to get outdoors and help Alaska State Parks and local organizations celebrate National Trails Day by participating in the following guided hikes and trail projects over the weekend of June 2-3. Unless otherwise specified, bring lunch and snacks, water, appropriate clothing, sturdy footwear, sun or safety glasses, work gloves, and bug spray.

Volunteer projects in Kachemak Bay State Park, June 2-4

Sign up by **Sunday, May 27** to work and play across the bay with Alaska State Parks and Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park. Activities include a guided, four-mile hike to Grewingk Glacier, China Poot Fly-In and Hike-Out Overnight (\$100/per person), Glacier Spit/Rusty's Lagoon Cleanup and Maintenance, Saddle Trail Maintenance, Sadie Knob Trail Maintenance, and South Grace Trail Maintenance Overnight. Alternately, volunteers can remain on the Homer side of the bay and help the Homer Cycling Club expand their Diamond Creek bike trail or work on Diamond Creek Trail Maintenance. For the activities across the bay, there is a charge of \$20/person. Tools and water taxi are provided, no skills necessary, fun guaranteed! You must pre-register by May 27. Stop by the Alaska State Park offices on the 2nd floor of the Alaska Islands & Ocean Visitor Center in Homer, fill out your volunteer form and make payment, or email kbayvolunteer@gmail.com to have the form emailed to you. For more information call Christina at 907-435-7969.

Volunteer work on Turnagain Arm Trail, Chugach State Park, June 2

Join Alaska State Parks and Alaska Trails Inc. at 8:30 a.m. on June 2 at Celebrate National Trails Day with the Alaska Trail Stewards and Chugach State Park! Volunteers will help with maintenance on the Turnagain Arm Trail, and can expect to help repair tread, increase drainage, haul brush, use loppers and handsaws to clear brush and other duties as necessary. Volunteers must be over 18 for this event, can plan to walk several miles on the trail throughout the day, and must be comfortable working outdoors with hand tools. Contact Joe at 907-694-1074 for more information and please pre-register at the Alaska Trails Inc. web page here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-trails-day-volunteer-event-tickets-45519691623>

Guided Donnelly Dome Hike near Delta Junction, June 2

Join the Delta Junction Trails Association with support from Alaska State Parks at 11 a.m. on June 2 for a guided hike of Donnelly Dome. Meet at the pullout 2.5 miles up the Dome Road off Mile 248 of the Richardson Highway. Bring a Recreation Access Permit which can be obtained at the Fort Greeley Visitor's Center during regular business hours or at <https://usartrak.isportsman.net/>. Check on the status of Donnelly East Area 531 by calling 907-873-3181 or by going to the website. This will tell you if the area is open for recreation or if it has been temporarily closed for military training. If closed to training, the backup meeting location will be the pullout on Coal Mine Road at the same time. Please contact Ellen for more information at 907-895-5155.

Celebrate the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area Water Trails, June 2

Join Alaska State Parks for a day of paddle-boarding, canoeing, or kayaking the Tanaina Lake Canoe Loop. Meet at the Tanaina Lake Canoe Loop Trailhead, mile 4.7 Nancy Lake Pkwy, at 11:00 a.m. on June 2 with your own boat or rent one from Tippecanoe, for a Guided Canoe Naturalist Paddle on Tanania Lake or a Guided Lynx Lake Loop Paddle. There will be a potluck following the event, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a Dutch Oven Cook-Off & Robert Service Poetry Reading. Baked Beans, Cornbread and, "The Haggis of Private McPhee" provided. Everyone welcome. For more information call: 907-495-6212 or 355-7513

Volunteer work on Curry Ridge Trail, Denali State Park, near Trapper Creek, June 2

Come on out for the "Curry Ridge Ramble" with Alaska State Parks and join in hiking and trail work along the Curry Ridge Trail. Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Kesugi-Ken Interpretive Center located at Mile 134.5 of the George Parks Highway. Parking is in the day-use lot. Volunteers will hike 4-5 miles and participate in trail work throughout the day, including cutting brush, moving materials and rocks, and compacting soils. Afterward join for a cookout at the interpretive center. Potluck items are welcome. For more information call Carter at 907-354-5890 (cell) or 907-733-5123 (office).

Seward area self-led hikes and community celebration, June 2-3

Join the Seward Trail Blazers and Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance by planning your own hikes on Saturday and participating in a community celebration on Sunday. On Saturday, the Trail Blazers are encouraging people to get out and walk the trails around town and all over the Kenai Peninsula. In town, there are the bike path/Iditarod Trail and the Two Lakes Trail, as well as the climb up Mt. Marathon. The bike path extends to mile 5, where you can access the Lost Lake trail and the Iditarod Trail can be accessed at Bear Lake or Saw Mill Creek. On June 3, from 1:30 pm to 5:30 p.m., the Seward Trail Blazers and the Iditarod Historic Alliance will host a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act and the 40th anniversary of the designation of the Iditarod as a National Historic Trail. Chugach National Forest will be present to celebrate and promote INHT stewardship events scheduled this summer. Refreshments will be available. For more information contact sitblazers@gmail.com.

CONTACT: Darcy Harris, 907-269-8699, darcy.harris@alaska.gov

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