

## **NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY**

**WHEREAS**, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and

**WHEREAS**, public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and

**WHEREAS**, shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation and active support of citizens, community, city and state officials, business leaders, children and adults; and

**WHEREAS**, recreation opportunities offered by public lands help families lead a more active lifestyle and reduce the incidence of childhood obesity; and

**WHEREAS**, land conservation efforts improve access to public lands by urban residents and work to break down the barriers that prevent Americans from actively utilizing their public lands; and

**WHEREAS**, a collaboration among state and local residents, land managers and community leaders improves the conditions of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, National Public Lands Day, now celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation. The Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service serve as agency sponsors. This is an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in Crossville.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, J. H. Graham III, Mayor of the City of Crossville, Tennessee, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2013 as **NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY** in Crossville, Tennessee and call upon the people of Crossville to recognize and participate in this special observance.