



## Meeting Your Special Needs

Do you or a loved one need special assistance? Are you a father who uses a wheelchair and would like to teach your son to fish? Would your friend who is blind enjoy hearing stories of the past aboard a rumbling train? Would your daughter who is deaf be amazed seeing a heron swallow a fish as a sign language interpreter translates a bird program? Has your child been diagnosed with Down Syndrome and wants to attend overnight camp? The number of people with disabilities is an ever-growing group in our nation. This is the only group that *any person can become part of, at any time!* Cuyahoga Valley National Park is here to remove barriers and build enjoyable experiences for everyone.



NPS/ARRYE ROSSER

### If You Have Mobility Needs

- All visitor centers are accessible. See a park map or visit [www.nps.gov/cuva](http://www.nps.gov/cuva) for exact locations and specific features.
- Many of the national park's most popular attractions are fully accessible: the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail (including the Beaver Marsh near Ira Trailhead—the exception is a steep incline over Lock 29), the Everett Road Covered Bridge, Brandywine Falls, and the heronry along Bath Road.
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a partner in Spree for All, a universally accessible hiking series organized by Metro Parks, Serving Summit County.
- Horseshoe Pond has an accessible fishing pier.
- Wheelchair access is available on Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.
- The reservable picnic shelters and the Ralph Regula Room at Boston Store Visitor Center are accessible rental facilities.
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park and its partners offer a series of Canalway Quests, treasure hunts with rhyming clues that tell how a place is special. Each quest includes a description of mobility considerations; several are wheelchair accessible.

NPS/TED TOTH



### If You Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

- Cuyahoga Valley National Park can provide an interpreter for people with hearing needs. A minimum of two weeks is required to obtain an interpreter. To use this service, contact us at 800-433-1986 ext. 5991 or [cuva\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:cuva_info@nps.gov).
- Boston Store Visitor Center provides a subtitled video about the national park. New, fully accessible exhibits are planned for Canal Visitor Center, opening in late 2013.
- Rather than calling, e-mail us for park information at [cuva\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:cuva_info@nps.gov).
- Assisted listening devices and a captioned version of the *Voices of the Valley* audio tour are available aboard Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.



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## If You Have Visual Needs

- Large-print versions of this bulletin, the park's quarterly *Schedule of Events*, and the *Valley Volunteer* newsletter are available upon request by calling 800-433-1986 ext. 5991.
- Winter activities and tandem bike programs are offered in conjunction with the Cleveland Sight Center throughout the year.
- Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad's audio tour, *Voices of the Valley*, allows you to experience the national park through storytelling.
- Boston Store Visitor Center provides an audio description of its video about the national park. Request a listening device at the front desk.
- Audio stations with four educational messages are available at the Beaver Marsh and Station Road Bridge Trailhead.
- We are piloting the use of tactile elements in various park exhibits. New, fully accessible exhibits are planned for Canal Visitor Center, opening in late 2013.



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## If You Have a Cognitive Disability

- Ohio Winter Special Olympics are held annually in the national park.
- Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center and Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad can accommodate groups of children or adults with special needs.
- Volunteer opportunities are available for groups of adults and/or teens with cognitive

disabilities. For example, the BraVo! group from United Disability Services has assisted with preparing bells for The Polar Express™ train program and with Adopt-a-Trail. To learn more, contact the volunteer office at 330-657-2296 or [volunteer@forcvnp.org](mailto:volunteer@forcvnp.org).



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## Serving You Better

If you or your organization have suggestions for programming that makes the national park more accessible to visitors with special needs, call 216-524-1497 ext. 225 or e-mail [margaret\\_adams@nps.gov](mailto:margaret_adams@nps.gov).

We would love to partner with a variety of groups concerned with accessibility issues.

**For a large-print version of this bulletin, call 800-433-1986 ext. 5991.**

For general information about Cuyahoga Valley National Park, call 800-257-9477 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., or visit us online at [www.nps.gov/cuva](http://www.nps.gov/cuva).



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