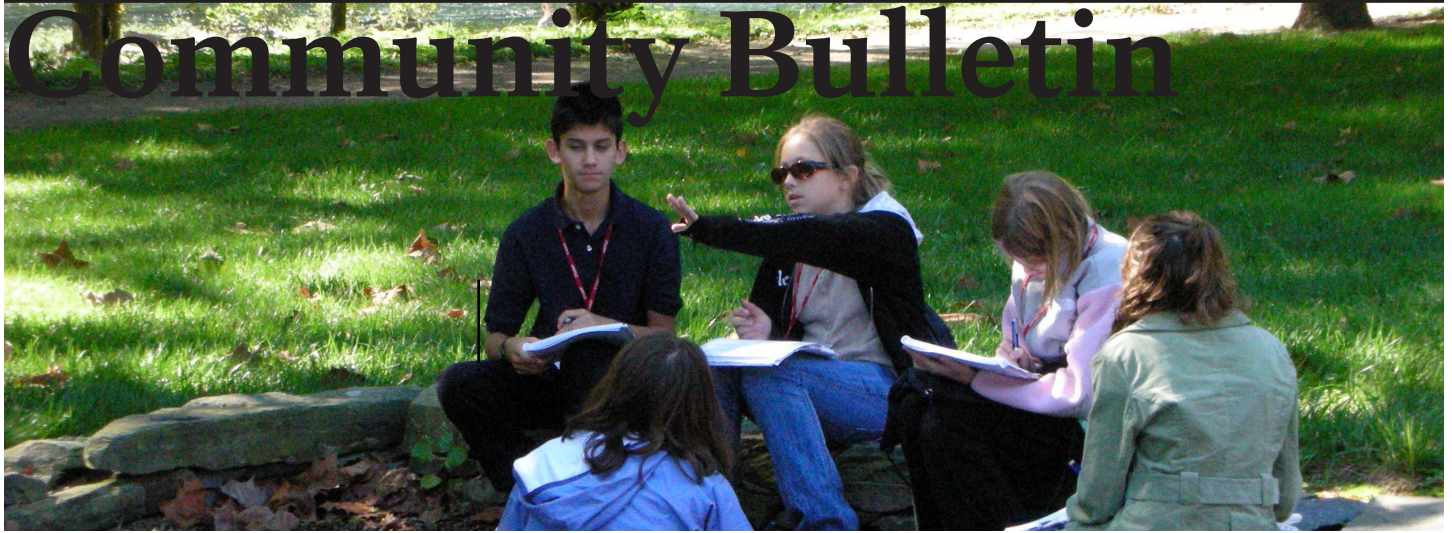




# Community Bulletin



## Education Program Teaches Leadership

Almost 40,000 students visited Harpers Ferry National Historical Park during the 2005 – 2006 school years. About one fourth of those students came from throughout the United States as part of the Junior National Young Leaders Conference. This conference is offered by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC) and its mission is “to foster and inspire young people to achieve their full leadership potential.”<sup>1</sup>

The Education Office, a section of the Interpretation and Cultural Resource Management Division of Harpers Ferry NHP, is devoted to helping meet that goal. Leading students in academic curriculum focusing on John

Brown’s Raid and the Civil War, the park’s educational interpreters create an environment where students can develop their own thoughts and opinions on leadership and change during the 1850s and 1860s. The John Brown portion of the program explains the action that took place in Harpers Ferry in 1859 and then gives the students the opportunity to debate the question, “Would you follow John Brown?” During Civil War segment of the program, the students learn about military life, civilian life, and the war effort through hands-on activities and simulation.

With an average of 260 students attending each session, the education staff relies on the assistance of college

undergraduate and graduate school interns and seasonal staff to make this program flourish. These educator rangers, from all over the country, have contributed ideas and teaching techniques to the program. This lesson in leadership is evolving and innovative because of the dedicated students and staff who continue to participate.

1. Congressional Youth Leadership Council. “About CYLC.” (2005-2006), [http://www.cylc.org/index\\_about.cfm](http://www.cylc.org/index_about.cfm) (accessed October 24, 2006).

## Appalachian Trail Crew Continues Work

The Appalachian Trail Club Crew from Boiling Springs, PA, led by Bob Sickley, along with volunteers from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club are in the Park for a second week working on the Blue Trail section connecting the Appalachian Trail to Camp Hill and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy on Washington Street.

The trail is approximately 200’ long and will eventually be capped with

tread stone steps much like the design of Jefferson Rock. The crew will remain in the Park until Monday, October 23. The project will periodically continue, as volunteer crews are available. Currently, the Mather Side (Blue) Trail is closed to through hiking. Detour signs have been installed by the ATC crew.

The project is funded through the Federal Highway Administration’s

Recreation Trails Program administered by the West Virginia Department of Transportation for \$57,299.00. Project partners are Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Harpers Ferry NHP, and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.

# Boundary Project Underway

A project to rehabilitate the park's exterior boundary began in early October by a crew of four Student Conservation Association interns. The crew consists of (left to right on photo) Kevin Dul from Pennsylvania, Chris Lauerman from Wisconsin, Scott Points from Georgia, and Scott Broceus from Ohio. The park has a complex boundary that borders residential communities, forested lands, commercial areas, highways, railroads, incorporated towns, two other national parks, a Department of Homeland Security training facility, and agricultural lands. Although the park has a relatively small land area of 3,645 acres, the exterior boundary is over 70 miles long. Boundary work will be undertaken during the fall and winter months and should take about two years to complete.

The last major rehabilitation of the park's boundaries was completed in



1998-2000 when the boundary was approximately 45 miles long. Since 2000, boundary signs and survey markers have been damaged or lost due to vandalism and natural conditions, or have become obscured by vegetation. In 2004, 1,200 acres were added to the park pursuant to P.L. 108-307.

The project involves inspecting boundary signs and replacing or installing new ones as needed and inspecting survey markers (also known as monuments) and documenting their condition. In forested areas, a narrow white band will be painted around trees that contain a boundary sign. Witness trees will be marked to facilitate finding survey markers that are buried or not readily visible. Inter-park boundary signs will be installed along the common boundary of the two adjoining national parks. Clearing vines, brush, and small understory trees will be undertaken where needed to delineate the boundary.

The first year of this project will continue through next February. The work will focus on new lands that have been added to the park since 2000 which include the former Fish and Wildlife Service property along Millville Road, Perry Orchard, Ott Farm, Civil War Preservation Trust property west of Bakerton Road, Werner property and other Appalachian Trail lands

on Loudoun Heights that have been transferred to Harpers Ferry, and the Murphy Farm. Other boundary work will be undertaken this year as time permits.

Contact the Natural Resource Program Manager at (304) 535-6038 if you have any questions about this project.


## Veterans Day Free

Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne and Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns have announced that beginning this Veterans Day, November 11, U.S. Veterans, members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families will be admitted free-of-charge on Veterans Day to most public lands managed by the Dept. of the Interior and Agriculture.

## What's New

Contract work to restore the Train Station, parking lot, Bookshop and adjacent building will be completed very soon, as will the Public way waterline and repairs to the access road.

Grounds, Roads and Trails crew will begin repairing the washed out trails on Maryland Heights.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

The history of Harpers Ferry has few parallels in the American drama. It is more than one event, one date, or one individual. It is multi-layered, involving a diverse number of people and events, decisions and actions that influenced the course of our nation's history. Visit Harpers Ferry and step into history.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park  
P.O. Box 65  
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Visitor Center  
304-535-6029

Harpers Ferry Historical Association Bookshop  
304-525-6881 or 800-821-5206

Harpers Ferry NHP Home Page  
[www.nps.gov/hafe/](http://www.nps.gov/hafe/)

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.