

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION ON THE PRESIDENT'S AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE

In April, at the White House Conference on America's Great Outdoors, President Obama established the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to develop a conservation and recreation agenda worthy of the 21st century and to reconnect Americans with our great outdoors. The President understands that protecting and restoring the lands and waters that we love and reconnecting people to the outdoors must be community driven and supported.

The President directed the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality to lead this effort and to listen and learn from people all over the country. Please join senior representative of these agencies for a public listening session and discussion on land conservation, recreation, and reconnecting Americans to the great outdoors.

In the Southeast, many citizens and organizations are deeply involved in the conservation of working farms, forests, lakes, and rivers, scenic lands, and historic areas, and in celebrating and enjoying the region's rich outdoor and cultural heritage.

This public listening session and discussion is an opportunity for leaders of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to hear from you about solutions for building a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnecting all Americans with the outdoors. Please join us – here are the details:

Listening Session and Discussion Information:

When: Thursday, July 15, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

What: Public Listening Session on President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative

Where: Asheville-Buncombe County Technical Institute; Asheville Campus
340 Victoria Road, Asheville, NC 28801 ([Map & Directions](#))

Who: Representatives from DOI, USDA, EPA, and CEQ will be present to hear your thoughts and to participate in a conversation with you about land conservation, recreation, and reconnecting Americans to the great outdoors.

Register: This event is free and open to the public and we will make every effort to accommodate everyone. To help with our planning, we encourage you to pre-register by **Monday July 12**. To pre-register, please email Teresa Lovelace (Teresa.Lovelace@nps.gov). Include with your email your name, organization, and primary area of interest:

- Working land, open space, and landscape conservation
- Outdoor Recreation

- Youth engagement and environmental education.
- General Discussion

More Info: You can find more information on the America's Great Outdoors Initiative and submit comments on-line at: www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/.

We hope you will participate and look forward to hearing from you.