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**Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Receives Field Trip Grant From The National Park Foundation**

**Beach Lake, PA (January 19, 2016) –**Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River is one of 186 federal sites selected to receive a 2015 field trip grant from the National Park Foundation, the official charity of America’s national parks. The grant provides funds to bring fourth grade students from ten area school districts to the park for an educational program on the history of the Delaware and Hudson Canal.

This grant, part of the Foundation’s [Open OutDoors for Kids program](http://www.nationalparks.org/ook/about), supports the White House youthinitiative [Every Kid in a Park](https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/02/19/fact-sheet-launching-every-kid-park-initiative-and-designating-new-natio).

“It is inspiring to see the National Park Foundation and many other partners step up to support our goal of getting fourth graders and their families into parks, public lands and waters that belong to all Americans," said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. "These generous grants will ensure children across the country have an opportunity to experience the great outdoors in their community while developing a lifelong connection to our nation’s land, water and wildlife."

National Park Foundation grants have made it possible for more than 400,000 students, including this year’s grantees, to visit national parks and other public lands and waters.

“We want to help people everywhere, from all backgrounds, discover how national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and other public lands and waters are relevant to their lives, and the best way to do that is to give people the opportunity to experience them first-hand,” said Will Shafroth, president of the National Park Foundation. “Through our grants that provide funding for transportation and in-park learning, we are able to connect youth and their families to these special places and inspire people across the country to find their park which, in turn, can foster a lifelong connection to all that public lands and waters have to offer.”

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River has been working with local elementary schools for 17 years to provide on-site interactive living history programs. This funding will allow more fourth grade students to travel to Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania to participate in the Delaware and Hudson Canal Days. The program is a day-long experience, where park rangers dress in canal-era costumes and demonstrate what life was like on the Delaware and Hudson Canal.

“We are thrilled to have received this funding from the National Park Foundation. The Delaware and Hudson Canal was an important part of this area’s history, and this program allows the students to experience what life would have been like in the mid-1800’s on a canal boat, traveling alongside the Delaware River” says Ingrid Peterec, Chief of Interpretation at Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. “These are the kinds of programs that define what the National Park Service is about in young peoples’ minds: the excitement of discovering a new and tangible part of history.”

To learn more about the Delaware and Hudson Canal Days program as well as other education programs offered by Upper Delaware S&RR go the [www.nps.gov/upde](http://www.nps.gov/upde) or please call Ingrid Peterec at 570-685-4871 ext 6605.

For the full list of grantees, and their projects, visit [www.nationalparks.org/everykidinapark](http://www.nationalparks.org/everykidinapark).

**ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION**

The National Park Foundation is the official charity of America’s national parks and nonprofit partner to the National Park Service.  Chartered by Congress in 1967, the National Park Foundation raises private funds to help PROTECT more than 84 million acres of national parks through critical conservation and preservation efforts, CONNECT all Americans with their incomparable natural landscapes, vibrant culture and rich history, and INSPIRE the next generation of park stewards.  Find out more and become a part of the national park community at [www.nationalparks.org](http://www.nationalparks.org).