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Wal-Mart Helps Protect America's National Parks

Wal-Mart joins Unilever - for their fourth year sponsoring the National Parks America Tour, helping our nation's parks with volunteer power

Bentonville, Ark., May 17, 2005 - For the fourth consecutive year, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. has joined Unilever, the longest-standing corporate partner of the National Park Foundation and a Proud Partner of America's National Parks, the National Park Foundation, and Take Pride in America in supporting the *National Parks America Tour*.

Wal-Mart is committed to community stewardship and service. The *National Parks America Tour* service-to-the-land activities enable volunteers to earn service credits while giving something back to America's treasures – its 388 National Parks.



The *National Parks America Tour* provides parks with much-needed manpower resources to complete important projects from building boardwalks, painting fences to cleaning up beaches and seawalls. As visitor use increases and National Parks budgets decrease, volunteer manpower is essential to sustain parks for the future.



Recently, revitalization efforts drew over 500 volunteers to the Statue of Liberty National Monument/Ellis Island National Monument where Wal-Mart associates along with Unilever employees and their families came together to volunteer at one of our nation's most visited National Parks.



The *National Parks America Tour* provides a tremendous benefit to National Parks. The amount of volunteer resources dedicated to improvement projects at the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island National Monument is an invaluable contribution," commented Cynthia Garrett, Park Superintendent. "We need volunteers year-round and the *National Parks America Tour* sets the stage to foster volunteer engagement."

The *National Parks America Tour* is a volunteer-driven initiative designed to provide National Parks with manpower resources to complete important projects and engage communities in the National Parks experience. This year with 26 events the Tour will enable Wal-Mart volunteers and communities to supplement National Parks park resources. The result is an in-kind manpower donation of over 100,000 volunteer hours valued at \$ 1.7 million dollars.

Wal-Mart Helps Protect America's National Parks cont...

Earlier, in March, our volunteers cleared historical roads and fences, removed exotic vegetation and participated in other beautification projects along the roads and property of the Mission San Juan. "This is the third year that the San Antonio Missions have hosted a *National Parks America Tour* event," commented Steve Whitesell, Park Superintendent. "The benefits of volunteer power are seen throughout the park. Much of the work that volunteers accomplish could simply not be done with only our present park staff," Whitesell notes.



In April, in Yucca Valley, California, more than 200 volunteers rolled up their sleeves at Joshua Tree National Park enabling the park to complete important projects, including nature trail clean up, exotic weed pulling, working on a split-railed fence and other beautification projects. The *National Parks America Tour* welcomed Wal-Mart Associates, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Boys and Girls Club volunteers and area community school groups from the Southern California-area.

"This is the second year that Joshua Tree National Park has hosted a *National Parks America Tour* event," commented Curt Sauer, Park Superintendent. "The value derived from the National Parks America Tour is increasingly important as our park is faced with great visitor use and resource demands. Private support is essential and Wal-Mart Stores and Unilever are setting the threshold for partner support" notes Sauer.

The Tour wants to engage and rededicate people in the National Parks experience through meaningful volunteer service leaving an imprint and a promise that together we will work to protect and preserve these resources.

This year the *National Parks America Tour* hosts 26 events across the country beginning in March and continuing through November. Volunteers across the country can join Wal-Mart Associates at a National Park near them.

About Unilever

Unilever [NYSE: UL, UN], one of the world's largest consumer products companies, aims to add vitality to life by meeting everyday needs for nutrition, hygiene and personal care. Each day, around the world, consumers make 150 million decisions to purchase Unilever products. The company has a portfolio of brands that make people feel good, look good and get more out of life.

In the United States these brands include recognized names such as: Axe, "all," Ben & Jerry's, Bertolli, Breyers, Caress, Country Crock, Degree, Dove personal care products, Eternity by Calvin Klein, Hellmann's, Lipton, Knorr, Popsicle, Promise, Q-Tips, Skippy, Slim-Fast, Snuggle, Suave and Vaseline. All of the preceding brand names are registered trademarks of Unilever. Dedicated to serving consumers and the communities where we live, work and play, Unilever in the United States employs more than 15,000 people in 74 office and manufacturing sites in 24 states and Puerto Rico – generating approximately \$10 billion in sales in 2004. For more information visit www.unileverusa.com.

About Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. operates Wal-Mart Stores, Supercenters, Neighborhood Markets and SAM'S CLUB locations in the United States. Internationally, the company operates in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Puerto Rico, South Korea and the United Kingdom. The company's securities are listed on the New York and Pacific stock exchanges under the symbol WMT. More information about Wal-Mart can be found by visiting www.walmartfacts.com. Online merchandise sales are available at www.walmart.com.

About the National Park Foundation

The National Park Foundation (www.nationalparks.org), chartered by Congress in 1967, is the official non-profit partner of America's national parks. The National Park Foundation strengthens the enduring connection between the American people and their national parks by raising private funds, making strategic grants, creating innovative partnerships and increasing public awareness. Over the past seven years alone, the Foundation has contributed more than \$135 million in total grants and program support to national parks across the country.

About the National Park Service "VIP" Program

The National Park Service's Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program has grown over the years to reflect the dedication of people to their national parks. VIPs range in age from young children to senior citizens. They come from all over the United States, and the world, bringing different backgrounds, skills, and talents that enrich our park programs. Volunteers-In-Parks are Very Important People, visit www.nps.gov/volunteer to learn more about becoming a VIP today!

2005 National Parks America Tour Schedule

Phoenix Mountain Preserve	Phoenix, AZ	March 5, 2005
Channel Islands National Park	Ventura, CA	March 5, 2005
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park	San Antonio, TX	March 12, 2005
Joshua Tree National Park	Twentynine Palms, CA	April 9, 2005
San Bernardino National Forest	Idyllwild, CA	April 9, 2005
Tuzigoot, Montezuma Castle, Wupatki, Sunset Crater, Walnut Canyon NMs and Hubbell Trading Post NHS	Northern Arizona	April 30, 2005
Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty NM	New Jersey/New York	May 7, 2005
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site	Cornish, NH	May 7, 2005
Great Smoky Mountains National Park	Gatlinburg, TN	May 14, 2005
Padre Island National Seashore	Corpus Christi, TX	May 21, 2005
Saratoga National Historical Park	Stillwater, NY	June 11, 2005
Mount Rainier National Park	Ashford, WA	September 17, 2005
Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area	Atlanta, GA	September 24, 2005
Fort McHenry NM & HS	Baltimore, MD	September 24, 2005
Grand Canyon National Park	Grand Canyon, AZ	October 1, 2005
Lake Mead National Recreation Area	Boulder City, NV	October 15, 2005
Cabrillo National Monument	San Diego, CA	October 22, 2005
Gulf Islands National Seashore	Mississippi and Florida	October 22, 2005
Pea Ridge National Military Park	Pea Ridge, AR	October 29, 2005
Lincoln Home National Historic Site	Springfield, IL	November 5, 2005
Biscayne National Park	Homestead, FL	November 19, 2005