



OUTDOOR NATION DECLARATION

For the first time in U.S. history, more than 500 youth have risen together to address the growing disconnect between young people and the outdoors.

We are leaders and we are diverse. Therein lies our strength.

We come from the city, suburbs, and the country—from coast to coast.

We are the pioneers of the outdoor revolution. Our unified voice shouts that everyone has the right to access and enjoy America's great outdoors.

America is in a current state of crisis where its youth are choosing technology over nature, Xboxes over healthy lifestyles. Green spaces in urban areas are either unsafe or non-existent. Families, schools, and media have failed to engage and excite youth about the benefits of the outdoors.

To confront these and other barriers, we commit the Outdoor Nation to:

- Engage all of America's youth in the outdoors and move the outdoors to the inner city and the inner city to the outdoors. create safe places to be outdoors and a green spaces to call our own.
- Work with communities to provide clean outdoor spaces, free Outdoor events, safe urban areas for recreation, and local role models.
- Create outdoor jobs through local community projects like revitalization, spreading awareness of job and training opportunities, and securing the funding of that training.
- Partner with schools to encourage environmental literacy curriculum, scholarships for outdoor mentors, service learning, and well-funded after school programs and field trips.
- Advocate to our local, state, and national governments to increase public/private partnerships, more effectively manage existing resources for outdoor experiences, and create a culture that places a priority on the outdoors.
- Inspire volunteerism and service learning that utilizes social media tools, cell phone applications, and advanced web based information systems to engage our technology driven generation.

We are innovative, entrepreneurial, and committed to continuously improve and fund our initiatives.

We are determined to act on our ideas year-round, year after year, and the annual Outdoor Youth Summit will be the gathering place for Our Nation.

Now is the time to amplify our energy, momentum, and power to impact our neighborhoods, boroughs, cities and towns, and to make a lasting impression on our Outdoor Nation for generations to come.

We are mobilizing and empowering today's youth because we are the leaders of today's youth.

We can and will make a real, measurable difference.

We are taking a stand. We are united together as a movement. We are Outdoor Nation...

Building an Outdoor Nation
www.outdoornation.org