



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Alexis Korczynski
Title: Marketing Director
Email: akorczynski@forcvnp.org
Phone: 330.805.1694

Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park Announces New Bridle Trail Fund

PENINSULA, Ohio (February 18, 2021) – The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, the official friends group and philanthropic partner for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP), is thrilled to announce the creation of a new trails restoration fund: The Cuyahoga Valley Bridle Trail Fund. A generous donation by The Ray and Jan Dalton Foundation, a 501c3 qualified organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for women, children and those individuals that are unable to navigate society in their current situation, launched the establishment of this much-needed fund.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park has more than 125 miles of trails, including the iconic Buckeye and Towpath Trails, the new East Rim mountain bike trails, and 34 miles of horse or bridle trails. This system of trails provides a variety of ways visitors can explore and enjoy the park. Trail conditions vary widely, and the National Park Service (NPS) is continually challenged with the goal of preserving all of Cuyahoga Valley's trails.

“We recognize CVNP as a valuable natural resource in Northeast Ohio,” says Ray Dalton, co-founder of the Ray and Jan Dalton Foundation. “Within its vast trail system, the bridle trails are one of its most unique attributes and we believe that by this investment we are investing in the health and wellbeing of countless park users and equestrians in the future.”

Through The Cuyahoga Valley Bridle Trails Fund, managed by the Conservancy for CVNP, donors can provide financial support that will enable the NPS to make much needed improvements to bridle trails, which are also enjoyed by many as walking, jogging and biking trails, over a three-year period. Work that will be made possible through this new fund includes repairing bridle trail surfaces, installing armored crossings, repairing/cleaning trail bridges, cleaning/installing trail drainage features, and improving trail signs.

“We are grateful to the Dalton Family Foundation for launching this fund and appreciate the work of local Horseman's Councils and trail volunteers who assist with maintaining the park's trails,” says Deb Yandala, Conservancy for CVNP CEO. “The commitment of volunteers and donors is needed more than ever and we appreciate the community's engagement in the park and with the Conservancy.”



Individuals or organizations interested in contributing to The Cuyahoga Valley Bridle Trail Fund are encouraged to visit forcvnp.org/donate/bridle-trail-fund/ or contact Dan Blakemore, Director of Development at dblakemore@forcvnp.org or 330.657.2909 ext. 133.

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About the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is the official friends group and philanthropic partner for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). With a mission to enrich people’s lives and enhance our region by inspiring use, preservation and support of Cuyahoga Valley National Park, the Conservancy offers cultural and educational programming, co-manages the park’s volunteer program, provides venues for weddings, meetings and special events, and operates park retail spaces.