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Park in Pigeon Forge, TN. Learn more at headquarteredin the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains at Dollywood theme park.

The American Eagle Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to care for, restore and protect the USA’s living symbol of freedom, the Bald Eagle, and other birds of prey. The AEF is celebrating its 30th year of carrying out its mission through Education, Repopulation, Conservation & Rehabilitation. It is headquartered in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains at Dollywood theme park in Pigeon Forge, TN.

On June 20th, 1782, our nation’s Founding Fathers placed this majestic creature, which is unique to North America, at the center of the Great Seal of the United States.

On June 20th, 2015, the American Eagle, along with the United States Congress and Governors coast to coast, invited U.S. citizens to celebrate “American Eagle Day.” Citizens may do so by remembering the Bald Eagle’s dramatic comeback, reflecting on its special symbolism, and conducting educational activities and ceremonies (including recognizing “American Eagles” in their communities—individuals who exemplify the qualities that the Bald Eagle represents.)

“We once almost lost this precious national treasure due to our own mistakes and neglect. Habitat destruction, illegal shootings, and the use of DDT caused the Bald Eagle population to drop to less than 500 nesting pairs in the lower 48 states in the early 60s,” says AEF Founder and President Al Cecere, “but we the people joined together, rose to the occasion, and vigilantly brought it back to America’s lands, waterways and skies.”

There are an estimated 5,500 Bald Eagle pairs in the contiguous United States today. The Bald Eagle was removed from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007.

“American Eagle Day” was first recognized in 1995 by President Bill Clinton, TN Governor Don Sundquist, TN Senators Howard Baker Jr. and Lamar Alexander, and celebrity entertainer Dolly Parton.

Since then, Governors from 47 states have recognized “American Eagle Day” with Proclamations and special documents, giving the USA’s National Bird its own “official day” in their states. The United States Senate and House of Representatives have unanimously passed several “American Eagle Day” Resolutions since 2007.

On American Eagle Day, and every day, let us continue to treasure and protect the Bald Eagle all across this great land for future generations to enjoy,” says Cecere, who has been spearheading the effort for two decades.

About the American Eagle Foundation
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