

Title: Wood Walker

Description: Spending time in nature promotes physical, emotional, and mental wellness. If you are interested in spending more time outside and want to support our mission of connecting people to the outdoors, please consider becoming a part of the Wood Walker Team. Members of this team walk our trails to monitor and maintain any trail maintenance needs. Volunteers are also able to take part in some wonderful opportunities that can help them gain more skills in areas such as: plant identification, invasive species removal, and basic naturalist skills.

Time Needed:

Season: Year Round

Days: Weekly, days are very flexible.

Time: Allow yourself enough time to travel the trails and accomplish the tasks needed. This could take 15 minutes or up to 1 hour depending on your pace and what needs to be addressed.

Tasks and Responsibilities: Walk the designated trails identifying and removing invasive species, marking and noting areas that need special attention, removing debris from the trail, trimming back plants that are encroaching the trails, and other projects as needed. Tasks include: Walk Trails, Flag and record issues, pick up litter, check trailhead sign, Trim branches, cut back plants, Pickup sticks and/or branches, ID any potentially harmful plants, note any potential problematic wildlife (wasps, yellow jacket, etc.), Note any projects that require expertise (Fallen tree, washed out trail, etc.).

Qualifications: The ability to do Trail work which includes the ability to lift 30lbs, bend over, crouch, use basic tools, work outside, and walk on uneven surfaces without assistance. The desire and the ability to learn more about trails and improving them.

Training: All trails team members will attend a trails maintenance Service Learning Opportunity.

Safety: When out on the trails, it is important to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions and activities you will be working. Closed toed shoe or boots. Gloves, bug repellent, sunscreen and/or hat. Always use safe practices when working with tools.

Worksite: Trails and adjoining Forest.

Special Projects: There will be special projects regarding: repairing structures related to the trails, plant mapping projects, removing invasive species, developing interpretive trails, developing interpretive signage, and sharing information with visitors.

Other: We also want to keep in mind that we are not only making the trails an inviting place for visitors, but also a space for the wildlife and forest itself.