

Title: Nature Observation Volunteer

Description: Spending time in nature promotes physical, emotional, and mental wellness. If you are interested in spending more time outside and want to help collect information to help Prescott Farm improve our programs, please consider becoming a part of the Nature Observation Team. This team walks our trails and monitors the changes that are occurring throughout our seasons. They are also able to take part in some wonderful opportunities that can help them gain more skills in areas such as plant identification, phenology, and nature observations.

Time Needed:

Season: Year Round

Days: Daily with flexible days

Times: Flexible. Allow yourself enough time to travel the trails and make observations. This could take 15 minutes or up to 1 hour depending on your pace and what changes have occurred.

Tasks and Responsibilities: Walk the designated trail and fill out the phenology checklist (Nature Observation Checklist) to the best of your ability. Write, photograph, draw or make any other additional notations about your observations.

Qualifications: Love of nature and the ability to carefully observe natural processes. Trails are an uneven surface so volunteers must have the ability to walk on uneven surfaces.

Training: Nature Observation team members must attend a Plant and Animal ID Service Learning Opportunity or other approved training before starting.

Safety: When out on the trails, it is important to bring and wear appropriate clothing for the conditions and activities you will be working. Closed toed shoe or boots, bug repellent, sunscreen and/or hat are recommended.

Worksite: The yellow trail.

Special Projects: There will be special projects regarding: analyzing data, photographing phenological cycles, plant mapping projects, developing interpretive signage and sharing information with visitors.

Other: When observing nature, it is important not to disturb the plants or animals that we are observing so that we do not alter the natural cycles that we are recording.