# **VOLUNTEER JOB DESIGN, RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION**

Heather Burke HQUSACE National Partnerships and Volunteer Program Manager

13 February 2025













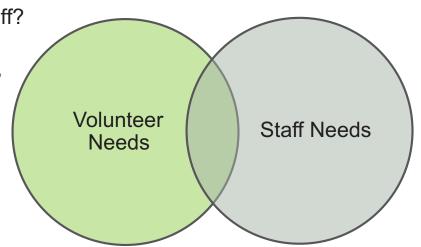
## **Creating Strategic Volunteer Jobs**



- What problem are you trying to solve at your project or what community need are you trying to meet?
- List the things you would like to do, but do not have the time or staffing capability to perform (your "Dream List").

Which strategies can you afford to pursue with paid staff?

What can volunteers do to pursue the other strategies?

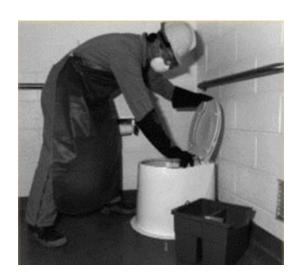




### **Designing Positions for Volunteers**



- Good volunteer position design is key to the ultimate success of a volunteer program.
- We are trying to 'sell' our volunteer opportunities, not only to the public but to our coworkers.
- It is important to stress the added value to the Corps by volunteers' efforts and give specific examples of how volunteers can help paid staff accomplish specific goals.



- Brainstorm with your coworkers the programs or services you wish you could accomplish but cannot, due to limited resources.
- Ask coworkers to help refine these positions and develop new opportunities.
- Understanding volunteer trends can help with the design of volunteer positions.



### **Volunteer Trends**



- Most volunteers are already employed
- Many people with professional skills available
- Seeking short-term volunteering options
- Desire for freedom, ability to act quickly
- Want challenging, interesting assignments
- Come from a broad cross-section of society
- Expect to be treated professionally
- Need flexibility in hours
- Family and group volunteering are popular
- Interest in working for causes instead of for agencies
- Looking for job experience, training, re-entry to employment
- Multitude of motivations for volunteering
- More "voluntolds" (e.g., requirement for high school graduation)
- More seniors (over 70 years old)





### **Responding to Volunteer Trends**



- Design episodic, short-term positions
- Offer position sharing
- Provide group volunteer opportunities
- Target recruitment to professionals, youth, retired people, ethnic groups, etc.
- Offer flexible hours and locations
- Reimburse volunteer expenses



- Broaden the ways volunteers are utilized
- Develop positions for evenings and weekends
- Develop positions that can be performed off-site
- Create opportunities for students





### **Volunteer Needs Assessment**



https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/volunteer/plans.cfm

OLUNTEER NEEDS ASSESSMENT F	OR (NAME OF OF	ERATING PROJECT):						VOLUNTEER CO	ORDINATOR NAME:	
LIST EACH TASK ON SEPARATE ROW		EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	QUALIFICATIONS	PHYSICAL	KNOWN WORK	PROGRAM AREA &	WORK MUST BE	PRIORITY 1=NE CE \$SARY 2=IMPORTANT	COORDINATOR: THIS TASK SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN WHICH JOB	FOR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: STATUS AND DATE (OPEN, FILLED, COMPLETED)



### **Benefits of Well Written Volunteer Descriptions**



- Position descriptions should be clearly written and include all essential information.
- Clear understanding of what is expected by volunteer and staff
- Marketing tool for recruitment
- Guide for screening
- Basis for supervision and evaluation
- Contract between volunteer and USACE



★ BLACK WARRIOR AND TOMBIGBEE LAKES, Corps of Engineers, Demopolis, AL. We are always looking for dependable and enthusiastic volunteers here at the BWT.

We operate our four class A campgrounds exclusively with volunteers. Schedules are usually either 3 days on and 6 days off, or 4 on and 4 off. Sites provided are full hookup with water, sewer, and 50/30 amp service with washer and dryer available for use. For more information, contact Park Ranger David White at: david.f.white@usace.army.mil or 334-289-3540.

★ USACE HOLT LAKE NEAR TUSCALOOSA, AL, is looking for Park Hosts and Gatehouse Attendants to staff 3 different parks. Seasonal (minimum 90-day commitment)



and year-round positions available. Positions are available at Deerlick Creek Campground, Burchfield Branch Campground, and Rocky Branch Swim Beach. Volunteers will be expected to work approx. 20 hrs per wk and must provide their own RV. Schedule is 3 days on, 6 days off, or may be fixed. Full hookup campsite provided in exchange for services. Contact Park Ranger Shaun Ray at: 205-553-9373 or shaun.e.ray@usace.army.mil with questions.



# Elements in an Ideal Volunteer Position Description



- Position title
- Supervisor/POC
- Goal or purpose of position/ Statement of need
- Major responsibilities
- Time commitment
- Qualifications (required, desired)
- Work location
- Benefits to the volunteer
- PHOTOS!



#### NWW Volunteer – Park Host Maintenance Example

#### Overview:

Volunteer Park Hosts (maintenance) play a vital role for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). As a Park Host, you are a part of a team that includes volunteers, service contractors, park rangers, management, and administration. This team works together to conserve our national recreation resources and keep these valuable areas available to the public. In some cases, volunteers are the only contact the public has with the Corps. Park Hosts are long-term volunteers who commit to an extended stay, usually 3+ months, at park campgrounds. A choice campsite is reserved at no charge for these volunteers during their commitment to a project.

#### Responsibilities:

Upkeep of park facilities such as bath houses, playgrounds, campsites, trails, and natural areas. This requires cleaning and inspection of facilities for repair needs, repairing facilities, mowing, weed eating, and other environmental conservation techniques. Help create a temporary community by fostering communication between park visitors and personnel. Help keep our parks friendly places for outdoor recreation and socialization. Provide valuable information on how to improve our parks by maintaining open communication with rangers and managers, passing on ideas for improvement gathered during daily contact with visitors.

#### Minimum Qualifications:

- Desire to work a minimum of 20 hours per week and live in a natural outdoor setting, with your own RV.
- Desire to meet and interact with people from varied backgrounds.
- Cognitive and verbal ability to answer visitor questions and communicate with other park personnel.
- Physical ability to operate mowing and maintenance machinery, lift and carry 30 pounds for 100 feet (position may require extended periods in the outdoors during adverse conditions such as heat, cold, or rain).
- Visually able to spot safety hazards and take prompt appropriate action to correct in accordance with training provided.

#### Desired Experience:

- Landscaping, planting and care of flowers or other small plants.
- Natural resource conservation or trail work.
- Custodial work (cleaning, painting, light repairs).
- Mechanical skills to maintain equipment.

# **Example Position Description**



Background check required? YesNo Date Completed
Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA)?YesNo (Attach)
Position Hazard Analysis (PHA)?YesNo (Attach)
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?YesNo (Attach)
Type:
Length of service, days of the week, and time of day work is to be done:
Campsite Provided? Yes No Amenities:
Clothing/Identification provided:
Miscellaneous Expenses/Local Mileage to be reimbursed:
Training, Certification, Licensing Required? Date Completed

**U.S. ARMY** 





#### POSITION DETAIL QUICK LOOK:

- 285 Corps Road 3602 Clifton, Texas 76634 31.863056, -97.369718
- **On-Site Position**
- 2/4/2025 2/3/2026
- Point of Contact Kathryn Devers mary.k.devers@usace.army.mil
- Secondary Point of Contact Mikayla Patterson mikayla.j.patterson@usace.army.mi

2546223332

#### Description

The primary function of a Park Host involves providing positive hospitality and customer service while courteously and professionally informing park guests, with stewardship of park facilities duties as assigned. Secondary functions include assisting in the upkeep of the park facilities and promoting safe and responsible use of USACE amenities. Hosts also provide valuable information on how to improve parks by maintaining open communication with the public and passing such information on to the Rangers

**Apply Now** 

**Recreation Services** 

Visitor Protection

2/4/2025 - 2/3/2026

Required Days

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Hours Available



### **Volunteer Recruitment**



- For volunteer recruitment to be successful, the needs of USACE and the needs of the volunteer must be met concurrently.
- Too often we are tempted to fill positions without thinking whether the needs of the organization and the volunteer are met.
- What happens to the agency when we try to push the wrong piece into the puzzle?
- Motivations to appeal to when recruiting:
  - Help others
  - Improve the community or resource
  - > Gain work experience/ learn new skills
  - Stay active and involved
  - Meet new people
  - Being needed
  - Make professional contacts
  - Meet new challenges
  - > Share fun time with family and friends





### **Recruitment Techniques to Avoid**



- Bait and switch (You will lose trust of the volunteers)
  - nmy can do it! Devalues the work)
- "There's nothing to it." (Any dummy can do it! Devalues the work)
- "We're desperate; anyone will do." (How special does this make a person feel?)
- Cast your net and see who swims in. (Whoops, wrong fish!)
- "You're a CPA. We could use one of you!" (Making assumptions)
- "We have lots of needs...HELP!" (Not specific enough)



"I'm tired of doing it. Anyone else want to?" (This person should not be a recruiter)



### **Recruitment Tools**



https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/volunteer/clothing.cfm

### **Volunteer Brochures**





WHO CAN

#### **VOLUNTEER?**

You are eligible to volunteer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers if you are:

- A U.S. citizen or a legal alien (permanent) resident), or foreign exchange student with J-1 or F-1 student visa
- 18 years or older
- Anyone under age 18 may participate with written consent from a parent or guardian.

Many volunteer positions do not require prior experience, but let us know if you have an area of

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS



**Volunteer Brochures** 

### MAKING A

#### DIFFERENCE

Volunteers play a valuable role in helping the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) care for the environment and provide high quality recreation opportunities. Each year, people like you give their time, expertise, and resources to serve millions of visitors who enjoy USACE-managed lands and waters.

USACE is one of the nation's leading federal providers of outdoor recreation with more than 400 lake and river projects in 43 states, and stewardship responsibilities covering approximately 12 million acres of public lands and waters. Our volunteers are people who want to give back to their communities and are interested in the work of the USACE natural resources management program.





#### WHERE CAN YOU SERVE?

USACE lakes and river projects are located throughout the United States. Visit www.volunteer.gov to find an opportunity. Additional information about USACE lakes can be found at www.corpslakes.us.

WHAT CAN

#### YOU DO?

You will become part of a team of more than a half million volunteers who, in the last decade, have served more than 15 million hours worth \$300+ million

How our volunteers help:

#### Recreation

- . Build and maintain trails
- Serve as campground/visitor center hosts
- Conduct educational programs and tours
- · Develop and build displays
- Maintain facilities Collect fees

#### Natural Resource Management

- Remove invasive species
- Plant native vegetation · Build and install wildlife/fish habitat
- GIS/Mapping
- · Remove trash and dehris

#### Administration

- · Write or edit materials for publication
- Photography
- · Computer/database entry
- .... And so much more!

### **VOLUNTEER?**

People volunteer for many reasons. Some like the flexibility volunteering allows, while others want to make a difference, or want to gain new skills/

Volunteering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a great opportunity to:

- · Meet people and form new friendships
- Explore and live in new places
- Work in beautiful outdoor settings Provide community service
- Increase your career options
- Earn college credits with internships
- Enjoy free camping while serving
- · Have fun!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/volunteer/clothing.cfm

of Engineers

HOW TO

Contact a nearby USACE lake visitor

center or office and talk to a park

ranger to learn more. You can also

opportunities across the nation at

apply online and view volunteer

**VOLUNTEER** 

www.volunteer.gov.





Volunteer Posters in two sizes -8½ x 11" and 18 x 24"





# Volunteering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a great opportunity to: • Meet people and form new friendships

- · Explore and live in new places
- · Work in beautiful outdoor settings
- Enjoy free camping while serving
- · Have fun!

#### How our volunteers help:

- · Build and maintain trails
- · Serve as campground/visitor center hosts
- · Conduct educational programs and tours
- · Build and install wildlife/fish habitat

- ..... And so much more!

#### Call: 1-800-VOL-TEER (1-800-865-8337)

Email: volunteer.gov@usace.army.mil Visit: www.volunteer.gov











- Explore and live in new places
- Provide community service
   Enjoy free camping while serving

- Build and maintain trails
- Serve as campground/visitor center hosts
   Conduct educational programs and tours
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https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/volunteer/clothing.cfm



NATIONAL

VOLUNTEER

WEEK

### **Volunteer Week Spotlights**





**APRIL 21 - 27** 

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities, and be a force that transforms the world. This week, we shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent, and voice to make a difference in their communities.



provided landscaping services to improve project areas

Rusty and Diane Oleszewski volunteered during the 2023 recreation season at Buffumville Lake's damsite. Together, the couple went above and beyond in landscape maintenance and office repairs. With an ambitious work ethic and experience in property management, the project's recreation areas were made pristine. Together they peeled back layers of overgrowth throughout the disc golf course and kept it spotless of trash. Diane's green thumb helped to beautify the office's landscape beds. They successfully rejuvenated pollinator gardens using excess plants from other overgrown areas. Rusty, a reliable handyman, lent help in major debris clean ups of the dam. Repairs to lower priority issues that park staff didn't have time to address were fixed in an instant.

There's more to the Oleszewski couple than just their skills, though. Their joyous demeanor and open communication made them stand out within the

team. As spring sets into motion, the Buffumville Lake gardens are beginning to bloom and serve as a reminder of their hard work. We are excited for Rusty and Diane to return for another great recreation season this April.

(A great way to highlight stories about outstanding volunteers and use to recruit new volunteers)

https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/ employees/volunteer/week.cfm









National Volunteer



https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/volunteer/volunteer.cfm



# **Rend Lake Volunteer Program**



https://youtu.be/SfNYbr90HwU?si=CSZQF96byEUwbX21

Volume 8

Issue 2

September 2024



### About Bridging the

Gap

"Bridging the Gap" is an electronic publication to the property of the property of the party of the property of the property of the property of the property of the purpose of this newsletter is to provide information about the partnerships and volunteer programs around the country. For more information, or to submit stories for future editions, contact your PAC representative.

#### In This Issue Leave No Trace Spotlight Event at Beaver Lake .....

Hood Park Receives ADA-Compliant Fishing Platforms from Union Sportsmen's Alliance.....

Lake Sidney Lanier Challenge Cost Sharing Cooperative Management

Patoka Lake: 2023 Handshake Award Winne

#### National MOU: Kids in Parks

In May 2024, USACE and the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation (BRPF) signed a new national Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Kids in Parks program. The mission of the Kids in Parks program is to work together with partners throughout the country to promote children's health and the health of America's parks and public lands by increasing physical activity and engaging families in outdoor adventures that foster a meaningful connection to the natural and cultural world. Kids in Parks accomplishes its mission through the installation of interactive TRACK Trails - a series of networked hiking trails that provide brochure-led, self-guided adventures designed to turn an ordinary hike into a funfilled adventure.

Under this MOU, USACE and BRPF strive

- Construct, install, and maintain interactive trails at USACE projects.
- Promote USACE interactive trails through various media outlets.
- · Seek ways to integrate interactive trail systems with community projects



Photo above: TRACK Trail kiosk at McNary.

A few examples of interactive trail programs that have been established at USACE projects can be found on the NRM Gateway. These have included disc golf trails, pump tracks, bikes skills areas, and nature TRACK Trails at W. Kerr Scott, Blue Marsh, McNary, and Raystown projects.

### **Partnership Newsletter:**



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#### Having a Ball at Ball Mountain Lake

Valerie Franklin, Natural Resources Specialist, Ball Mountain and Townshend Lakes, NAE

Ball Mountain Lake has partnered with Jamaica Area Mountain Bike Alliance (JAMBA) to develop two, one-half mile single track trails for hiking and biking. A Challenge Partnership Agreement was executed in June 2022 with JAMBA, who broke ground in September 2022 for the "Having a Ball" trail, completing it one month later. Having a Ball officially opened June 2, 2023, and was JAMBA's first official trail for their chapter. It is a hand-built intermediate level trail that incorporates sustainable design concepts to mitigate erosion and integrate it into the landscape. It is rideable in both directions and has good sightlines to allow all users to

In May 2023 work began on the second trail, "Hard Corps". The trail was completed in June, two weeks before Ball Mountain Lake recorded its second highest pool elevation. JAMBA cleared silt and debris but otherwise found the new trails relatively unharmed, much to everyone's relief! JAMBA was instrumental in trail cleanup, spending over 40 hours between August and October removing silt and flood debris, ensuring our trails were safe for other visitors. Without their help we would still be trying to clear Ball Mountain's trail system for use.

Due to the flooding, the official opening of "Hard Corps" was pushed back and the ribbon cutting ceremony was held June 15, 2024. Hard Corps is also an intermediate level trail, constructed by hand, and with its completion, bikers and hikers can now access the boat launch parking area without traveling on pavement. These new trails have enhanced the recreational opportunities offered to our visiting public.

& Partnering with the Corps Handout Have you checked out the updated public <u>Corps Lakes webpages</u>? The partnership page is a great resource to share with potential partner organizations to provide examples of successful partnerships, links to all issues of Bridging the Gap

**New Corps Lakes** 

Gateway -Partnerships Webpage

newsletters, and an interactive map to drive users to your lakes to set up new partnerships. In addition to the webpage, a <u>new flier</u> has been developed by the PAC team to help initiate discussions about partnership opportunities with USACE.



NRM Gateway Spotlight: CWBI-OPS

Jamaica Area Mountain Bike Alli

Visit the CWBI-OPS: Partnerships and Volunteers Module page to find training resources, reports, and FAQs on entering annual data. The data entry period for Partnerships and Volunteers will be from October 1- November 15 for field projects. Districts/MSCs will have until December 13 to review and correct data.

CWBI-Ops: Partnerships and Volunteers Module

The Civil Works Business Intelligence-Operations (CWBI-OPS) modules v

Annual fiscal data entry for the CWBI-OPS Partnerships and Volunteers module opens each year October 1 – November 15 to enter data for the prior fiscal year.

Natural Resources Management Gateway

corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/partners/partners.cfm

(A great way to find out more about our outstanding partners and volunteers!)

We need your stories!

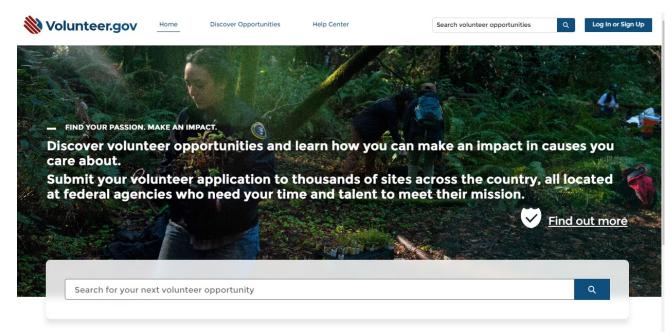
https://corpslakes.erdc. dren.mil/partners/newsl etter.cfm

corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/partners/partners.cfm

# **Volunteer.gov Public Site**

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District volunteer coordinators have volunteer.gov Salesforce accounts to post opportunities and forward applications to project volunteer coordinators.



### **Latest Opportunities**





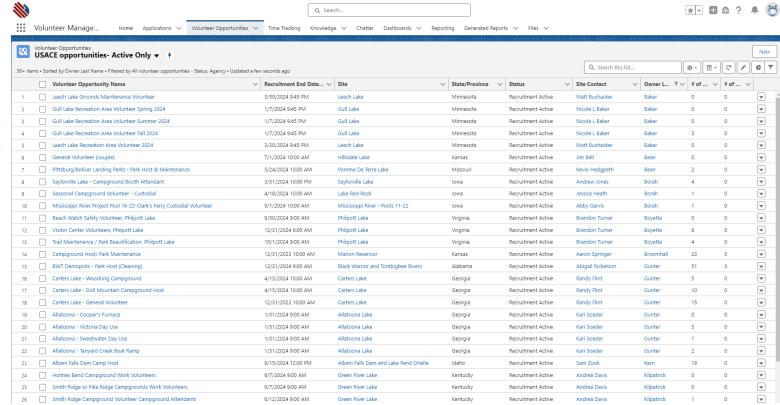


### **Volunteer.gov Administrator Site**



District volunteer coordinators have volunteer.gov Salesforce accounts to post opportunities and forward applications to project volunteer coordinators.

Project volunteer coordinators will have access as "Team Members" starting in April



### I Need a Volunteer - Posting Form (November 2024 version)

Send completed form to your district office volunteer coordinator

- Volunteer Opportunity Name:
- · Site Contact:
- · Secondary Contact:
- Site:

#### **Opportunity Location**

- Virtual: Can the volunteer job be done remotely? (Choose Yes or No.)
- Address: (Use address from the system, or manually input address)
  - If using a different address from your main project mailing address:
    - Street:
    - o City:
    - State:
    - Zip:
    - Geolocation Latitude/Longitude:

#### Opportunity Date & Time

- . Start Date of the Opportunity:
- . End Date of the Opportunity: (Cannot exceed one year from the start date)
- Opportunity Image Photo: Include a URL link to a photo you'd like posted with the opportunity. Photo URL must come from one of the following approved sites:
  - o www.Recreation.gov
  - Corps Lakes (https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/visitors/visitors.cfm)
  - USACE webpage (i.e. <u>https://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes/Kanopolis-Lake/</u>)

Find the photo you'd like posted with the opportunity. Right click on the image to copy the link address. Paste into this document.

#### Recruitment

 Unlisted Opportunity? (Choose Yes or No). If an opportunity is marked as unlisted, it cannot be found via the search page. For unlisted opportunities, sharing the OR code/link is the only way for

- Recruitment Start Date/Time: (List the specific date you want the volunteer opportunity posted on Volunteer.gov. Cannot be "ongoing" or "year round"):
- Recruitment End Date/Time (List the specific date you want the volunteer opportunity removed from Volunteer.gov. Cannot be "ongoing" or "year round"):

#### Opportunity Requirements

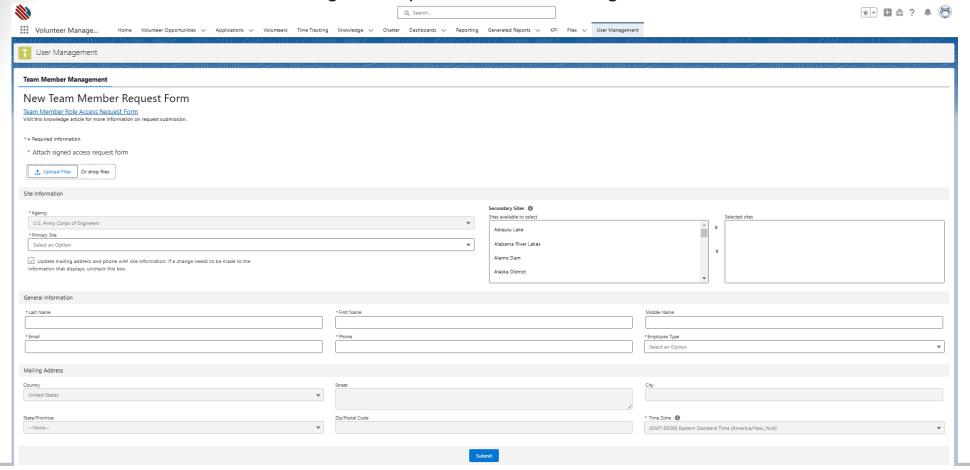
- Opportunity Type: Select either Event or Position
- . Number of Volunteers Needed:
- . Skills: (Select or highlight all that are needed for the position)
  - Backpacking/Camping
  - Biology
  - Boat Operation
  - Carpentry
  - o Clerical/Office Machines
  - o Computer Programming
  - Conservation Education
  - o Drafting/Graphics
  - o Driver's License
  - o First Aid Certificate
  - o Fish/Wildlife
  - General Assistance
  - o Hand Power Tools
  - Heavy Equipment
  - Landscaping/Reforestation
  - Land Surveying
  - Livestock/Ranching
  - Map Reading
  - Mountaineering
  - o Office/Clerical
  - Operation Horse-Care/Riding
  - Other Trade Skills
  - Photography
  - Public Speaking
  - Research/Librarian
  - Sign Language
  - o Supervision
  - Teaching Visitor Information
  - Working with People
  - Writing/Editing
- Special Groups (Select/highlight all that apply)
  - o Families
  - o Groups
  - Kids



### **Volunteer.gov Team Members**



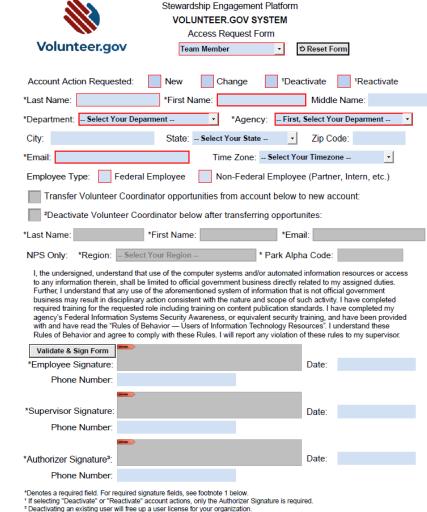
For Team Member accounts, complete the form and provide to your District Volunteer Coordinator to submit using the steps on the User Management tab.





### **Volunteer.gov Team Members**

- Team Member accounts will have some restricted permissions. (New opportunities still need to be created by the District Volunteer Coordinator under a full user license.)
- Team Members will be able to:
  - Access volunteer applications
  - Change the status of the volunteer to accepted, rejected, or waitlisted
  - Onboard new volunteers
  - Electronically sign OF301a forms

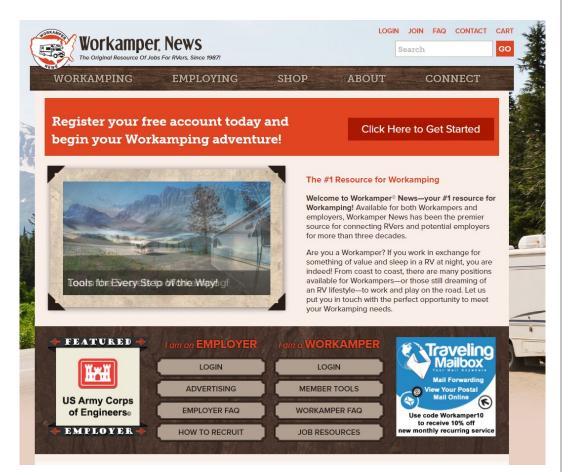


3 Authorizer is the Agency or Bureau Volunteer Program Manager or their deleger

### **Workamper News**



- Website/magazine that USACE contracts with to post volunteer and paid camp host opportunities.
- Each project gets the following for FREE with our contract:
  - ➤ Ten Hotline ads (up to 100 words) per year online. Runs for 2 weeks
  - Unlimited searches in Resume Database
  - Articles and videos
  - Online courses
  - Access to an applicant resume database for volunteers/ contractors seeking opportunities
  - Ability to create an employer tour to show off your Workamping environment
  - Ability to record podcasts about volunteering at your project



a

#### **Volunteer Contact Information**

#### Dworshak

1842 Viewpoint Rd Ahsahka, ID 83520 208-476-1255

#### Ice Harbor & Lower Monumental

2339 Monument Drive Burbank, WA 99323 509-547-2048

#### Lower Granite & Little Goose

100 Fair Street Clarkston, WA 99403 509-843-2214

#### **Lucky Peak**

9723 East Highway 21 Boise, Idaho 83716-9393 208-343-0671

#### Mill Creek

3211 Reservoir Road Walla Walla, WA 99362-8400 509-527-7160

#### McNary

82790 Devore Rd Umatilla, OR 97882 541-922-2268

#### **Volunteers in Action**





















### Volunteer Resources

Volunteer.Gov Volunteer Factsheet Volunteer Stories National Public Lands Day Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Corps Lakes on the Go Volunteer Message **USACE Mission Video 2021** 

# **NWW** Volunteer Website

ers/Volunteer-Program/

#### Volunteering with the Walla Walla District

Do you want to make a difference?

Volunteers are essential to helping USACE complete its missions and manage public lands.

We welcome volunteers of all ages and abilities. Working alone or with a group, our volunteers enjoy work that matches their interests and schedules. Some volunteers serve part-time and others enjoy a seasonal or full-time position. The important thing to remember is that even a few hours a month can make a big difference. Volunteering can offer a valuable experience and lifelong memories.

#### Volunteer Events - Help Needed! U.S. ARMY

Invasive Plant Removal - Two-horned water chestnut

Spend your morning or afternoon with us on a lovely farm pond in Manassas VA. Watch dragonflies, listen to frogs sing, and marvel at cravfish castles, while you help us remove this new invader!





Dates: July 21 (Wed), July 22 (Thur), July 24 (Sat), July 25 (Sun), Aug 4 (Wed), Aug 5 (Thu), Aug 7 (Sat)

Hours: Mornings from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and afternoons from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: The pond at 7901 Guy Dr, Manassas, VA.

#### Help Stop the Spread of a New Aquatic Invader!

- · Two-horned water chestnut is a new invader from Asia and is currently only present in a few dozen ponds in Northern Virginia, Help us stop it here, before it spreads to the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay, where it would interfere with commerce and damage ecosystems.
- . Two-horned water chestnut is an annual plant that sprouts in April and May, spreads over the water surface, often covering it completely, and then flowers and fruits in the summer. Seeds continue to form until the first hard frost.
- · Non-chemical control is possible, but it's time consuming. That's why we need your help! With this series of events we will attempt to pull all of the water chestnut present in a 1.25 acre pond.
- · At this event you will also learn how to report the plant if you see it in other ponds, thus providing Virginia the data needed to formulate a response strategy before it's too late!

#### What You Will Learn

- · How to identify this new invader.
- How and where it grows and options for removing it.
- . How you can help by reporting it if you see it in other ponds

#### Sign Up Here

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a48aaae2fa7f85-invasive

Questions? Call Sara Tangren at 301 580 6237

### **Volunteer Flyers**



"I am strongly committed to reducing public recreation accidents and fatalities at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects and therefore have set an agency goal of decreasing the number of fatalities by 50 percent by the end of fiscal year 2014, using the total of 197 fatalities from fiscal year 2011 as the baseline."

- Maj. Gen. Michael J. Walsh, USACE Deputy Commanding General



Number: 509-527-7139



### The Corps of Engineers Needs You!

#### Help Us Make a Difference

The Corps of Engineers is the largest provider of outdoor recreation in the entire nation. Our highest priority is public safety. We are looking for motivated men and women that want to make a difference by helping us with our public safety mission.



The primary duty of the Public Safety Volunteers is to assist Park Rangers with providing educational opportunities for school-aged children and young adults as well as assisting with special events for the public. Help us make a difference.

#### Specific duties include:

- Schedule interpretive programs with teachers, childcare providers, scout leaders, churches, sports clubs.
- Present interpretive programs with topics on public safety involving various recreation activities with a primary focus on WATER SAFETY.
  - Create flyers and news releases to advertise for upcoming
- events and programs. Assist with planning and preparations for public events.
- Assist with setup and implementation on event day.
- · Join a Park Ranger during boat patrols and assist with vessel inspections and safety education.

**Public Safety Volunteers Needed** 









U.S. ARMY

- Television interviews
- Newspaper articles
- Nextdoor app

- Rec.gov reservation history
- Radio PSAs
- Word of mouth
- Social media



Are you looking for fun and rewarding volunteer opportunties? The Rend Lake Volunteer Program is currently recruiting enthusiastic, dependable volunteers to fill several positions. Visit <a href="https://www.volunteer.gov/s/global-search/rend%20lake">https://www.volunteer.gov/s/global-search/rend%20lake</a> to view our volunteer opportunities and to apply. For more information, call the Rend Lake Project Office at 618-724-2493.



Wanted Volunteer Campground Hosts at Tuttle Creek Lake:

Tuttle Creek Lake, U.S. Army Co... · Follow

We are searching for that special person or couple that has their own camper and would like to be part of our team for the 2025 season. If you are interested, please contact Angelia at 816-389-3167 at the Tuttle Creek Lake Corps of Engineers office Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:30pm for more details.





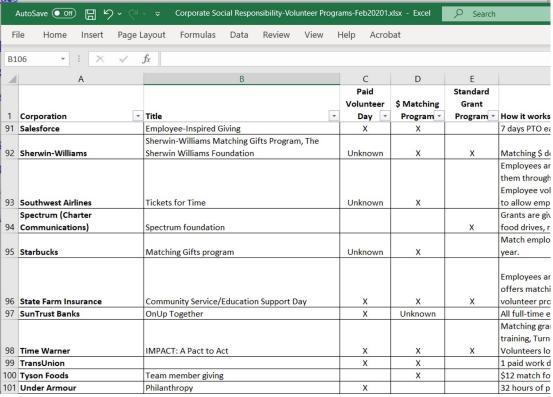
## **Corporate Social Responsibility**



Many Corporations have a commitment to volunteerism or donating to causes important to the organization



Volunteer Page on the Gateway has some resources to get you thinking





### **Volunteer Opportunity: Union Sportsmen's Alliance**







- MOU Purpose: Utilize USA's flagship conservation program "Work Boots on the Ground" to facilitate opportunities for their members to volunteer their time and unique trade skills towards construction, repair and restoration projects on USACE public lands and waters
- USA contributes private sector resources and highly trained Union member volunteers:
  - Electrical workers
  - Plumbers, welders and service techs
  - Machinists
  - Sheet metal workers
  - Painters
  - Roofers
  - Bricklayers
  - Iron workers
  - Carpenters
- http://unionsportsmen.org/



## **Volunteer Opportunity: Leave No Trace Spotlights**



Areas suffering from severe human-related impacts can receive assistance from LNT to correct the issue

Sites receive 3 days of activation by the Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Teams that can include service projects, staff and community training, community outreach, and youth programs

2022: Summersville selected 2024: Beaver, Rend, Hodges Village, Skiatook/Keystone 2025: Riverlands, Jennings Randolph, Bonneville, JH Kerr SUMMERSVILLE



















### **Volunteer Selection/Interviews**



- Importance of screening
  - Mutual screening
  - > To protect customers/visitors
  - > To maintain paid staff and other volunteer morale
  - > To guard the agency's reputation (impacts future program)
- 4 key steps in the interview process:
  - > Preparation
  - Opening
  - Body
  - Closing





### **Interview Preparation**



- Review what you know about the applicant.
- Review pertinent information about the available volunteer position(s).
- Assemble material about the agency.
- Formulate questions.
- Schedule adequate time.
- Arrange for private, comfortable place.
- Cast aside all distractions.





# Interview Opening/Body/Closing



- · Opening:
  - Greet and put applicant at ease, establish rapport.
  - Clarify the purpose of the interview: "...to determine if the Corps is a good match for you...
  - > Establish timeframe for interview.
- Body: (Three basic sections of an interview)
  - > You provide information about the agency, program, visitors served, etc.
  - ➤ Applicant shares information about themselves through thoughtful questioning. (skills, interests, experience, time availability, leadership style, motivation)
  - > You describe available volunteer positions or other options for involvement.
- Closing:
  - Review and summarize what surfaced during the interview.
  - Discuss next steps:
    - If mutual acceptance: explain how volunteer becomes active.
    - If no match: encourage honest sharing and refer elsewhere.
  - > Express appreciation for their time.





### **Core Questions**

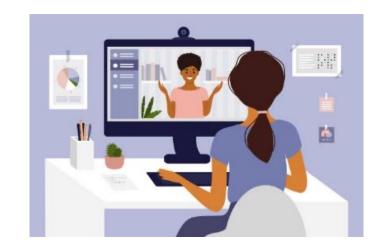


- · Open-ended questions are best.
- When several applicants interview for the same volunteer position, ask them all some core
  questions so you can compare their suitability.
- Situational questions determine how the person might react to specific experiences.

### Inappropriate/Illegal Interview Questions:

- Age
- Citizenship
- National Origin
- Race/Color
- Religion
- Sex

- Marital Status/Family
- Personal Plans
- Organizational Affiliation
- Police Record
- Military Discharge
- Economic Status



### WALLA WALLA DISTRICT VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Interview/Reference Check Questions – Illegal Questions Example

VOLUNTEER INTERVIEW	Date:
Operating Project:	
Volunteer Name:	Phone:
Volunteer Position and Duty Station:	
Interviewer (Volunteer Coordinator and/or Supervis	sor):
I. Review of Enrollment Form	
Review and clarify information on Volunteer Applicatio (resume, etc.). Correct any misinformation on form an	
II. Non-Directive Interview Questions	
What attracted you to our agency? Is there any asp motivates you to seek to volunteer here?	pect of our work that most
2. What would you like to get out of volunteering here? you've been successful?	What would make you feel like
What have you enjoyed most about your previous very paid employment?	olunteer work? About previous
4. Describe your ideal supervisor. What sort of supervunder?	visory style do you prefer to work
5. Would you rather work on your own, with a group, o	r with a partner? Why?

. What can I tell you about our agency?
olunteer Interview, Continued
II. Match with Volunteer Positions
Discuss potential volunteer positions and check match of interests, qualifications, and vailability.
V. Interviewer Assessment
Appearance:
□ Poised, neat □ Acceptable □ Unkempt
Reactions to Questions:
□ Helpful, interested, volunteered information □ Answers questions
□ Evasive □ Confused
Disposition:
□ Outgoing, pleasant, confident □ Reserved
□ Withdrawn, moody □ Suspicious, antagonistic
nterpersonal Skills:
□ Adept at dealing with others □ Relatively at ease with others □ Uncomforta
Physical Restrictions:

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### Inappropriate/Illegal Volunteer Interview Questions

Subject	Illegal	Legal If Job Related
AGE	Any question which tends to identify applicants between 40-64 years of age is illegal. EXAMPLE: "Do you remember the 1940 election?"	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject during an interview. However, there is a field on the OF 301 volunteer application and the OF 301a volunteer agreement that has been approved by OMB.
CITIZENSHIP	Any of the following questions cannot be asked: Are you a citizen of the United States? Are your parents/ spouse a US citizen? When did you acquire US citizenship? Are you/spouse/ parent native born or naturalized?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject during an interview. However, there is a field on the OF 301 volunteer application and the OF 301a volunteer agreement that has been approved by OMB. You may request documentation to verify citizenship/visa requirements, if the candidate indicates on either form.
NATIONAL ORIGIN	Any of the following questions cannot be asked: What is your national origin? What language is spoken in your home? What is your native language?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.
RACE/COLOR	You may not ask any question that directly or indirectly relates to race or color.	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject. However, there is an optional question regarding ethnicity on the OMB approved OF 301a volunteer agreement.
RELIGION	The following questions cannot be asked: What church do you attend? What religious holidays do you observe?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.
SEX	You may not ask any question which inquires as to one's gender. For example: What are your plans regarding having children in the near future? Do you mind having a male/female supervisor? Can you work with a group of men/ women?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.



STATUS/FAMILY	Any of the following questions cannot be asked: Are you married? Divorced? Widowed? With whom do you live? Do your children live with you? What ages are your children? Is your husband/ wife in the military?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.
	You may not ask questions that specifically ask the nationality, racial, or religious affiliation of a school; the candidate's education level in general, if not related to the position being filled.	You may ask questions concerning a candidate's academic, vocation, or professional education as long as it pertains to requirements related to the position being filled.
ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION	You may not ask the following question: To what organization, societies and clubs do you belong?	You may ask questions related to this subject if they are related to the volunteer position being filled and how the candidate's participation in the organization may fulfill the requirements.
POLICE RECORD	Do not ask: Have you ever been arrested?	If the job being filled has special requirements (i.e., bonding), you may ask a question such as: In order to fill this job, you must be bonded. Is there any problem that this presents?
WORK SCHEDULE/ TRAVEL	Do not ask any questions that relate to child care, ages of children or other non job-related areas.	If the position being filled has special requirements (i.e., travel, overtime, unusual hours, etc.) these conditions may be stated. For example: In this position you would have to travel 1 week in every month. Does this present a problem to you?
MILITARY DISCHARGE	The following question may not be asked: Were you honorably discharged from military service?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.
ECONOMIC STATUS	The following questions may not be asked: Do you have a good credit rating? Do you have any trouble with bills/collection agencies?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.
PERSONAL PLANS	The following question may not be asked: Do you have plans to live in this area long?	There is no legal question you can ask regarding this subject.
MISCELLANEOUS	You should not ask any question that is not position related or necessary for determining a candidate's possession of required skills.	You may notify the candidate that statements, misstatements or omissions of significant facts may be cause for non-selection.

Reference: <a href="http://CPOL.army.mil/library/permiss/6744.html">http://CPOL.army.mil/library/permiss/6744.html</a> PERMISS Category: Recruitment and Placement

Program



# Volunteer Reference Check

I. Volunteer Applicant	
Date:	Operating Project:
Volunteer Name:	
Volunteer Position and Duty Stat	tion:
Volunteer Coordinator:	
Volunteer Supervisor:	
II. Introductory Comments	
Briefly cover the following in requ the applicant:	uesting that the reference consent to the discussion of
<ul> <li>Applicant has given permission</li> </ul>	all you to verify some information. n for them to provide full and honest information. 0 minutes and can be done at their convenience. confidential.
III. Reference Check Question	s
<ul> <li>Questions for one reference for position available.</li> </ul>	illows. Revise as necessary or make tailor to your

Rе	ference #1
Na Ch	ame of Reference: ecked by: Date:
1.	What is your relationship to the applicant? (Use applicant's name.)
2.	How long have you known the applicant?
3.	Have you ever worked with the applicant in a volunteer capacity?Yes No If yes, describe:
4.	Is this applicant dependable?
5. app	In your observations, describe how this applicant interacts with children (if blicable).
6.	In your observations, describe how the applicant interacts with adults.
7.	Is this applicant a positive role model?
8. per	How does this applicant work with people who are different from him/her (such as sons with disabilities or from different ethnic or socio-economic backgrounds)?
9.	How would you describe the applicant's skill to handle records and/or money?



## Ways to Say 'No' to an Applicant

"I wish we had something suitable, but we don't at this time."

"Our program does not demand the skills you wish to give."

"Let me put you in contact with..."

> "I don't think you'll get what you want out of volunteering with us."

"Well get back to you."

> "You're not suitable for us, but..."

"The job you're best qualified for is already filled."

"Your time availability doesn't coincide with our needs."



## **Upcoming Volunteer Webinars / Important Dates**



- Feb 18, 10:00 11:00 Pacific/ 1:00 2:00 Eastern: Volunteer in-processing and paperwork
- Feb 21, 9:00 10:00 Pacific/12:00 1:00 Eastern: Volunteer orientation, training, supervision.
   Incidental expenses and reimbursements
- Mar 3, 10:00 11:00 Pacific/ 1:00 2:00 Eastern: Volunteer evaluations and awards. Entering volunteer data in CWBI
- Apr 20 26: National Volunteer Week

\*\*This webinar has been recorded and will be posted along with the slides on the NRM Gateway Partnerships and Volunteer training pages:

https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/training.cfm?ld=partner&View=yes https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/training.cfm?ld=volunteer&View=Yes