

On a daily basis, volunteers play a vital role in protecting natural resources, maintaining recreation facilities and assisting with interpretation and community outreach. Here at Hensley Lake we have had individuals volunteer that help support these programs independently, but none have supported all of these simultaneously. Ms. Beth “Buffy” Murphy has been a volunteer at Hensley Lake for over 3 years and has served the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers selflessly across multiple agency missions.

In her time with the Corps, Buffy has contributed over 2,500 volunteer hours, valued at over \$57,675.00 for services provided. Buffy plays an essential role on the Hensley team with her knowledge, support of our leading project/agency missions, and her genial personality that boosts team morale.

With few interpretive rangers on staff, capacity for outreach is limited. Through Buffy’s effort and support, Hensley Lake’s outreach opportunities for the public and park visitors increased significantly. Buffy spends countless hours preparing for school and onsite programs by organizing presentation materials, putting together water safety handout bags and staffing booths at children’s fishing events, fairs, school programs, and parades. Buffy also extends her volunteer services to support our major agency outreach activities and programs such as, National Public Lands Day, Warrior Day on the Lake, Every Kid in the Park, and Kids Fish Day, all while continuing to field visitor phone calls and direct walk-in visitors at project headquarters.

Within the last year, Buffy has increased her knowledge of project operations and has been able to apply her volunteer service hours to assist our project assistant with filing and researching VISA purchases, recording staff safety meeting minutes and maintaining the project Safety Data Sheets (SDS) files. She also assists our Maintenance team by assisting with reports and documents that support Flood Risk Management (FRM). Buffy also plays a role in maintaining recreation area by updating bulletin boards throughout the project, assisting with invasive species removal and assisting with the installation of food plots. As a volunteer she donates a great deal of her time to ensure the safety of staff and visitors by stocking medical bags, keeping our fire extinguisher program current and by conducting safety inspections that support project operations.



With Buffy’s natural fit on our team, she has been able to provide exceptional customer service to thousands of visitors that call and visit park headquarters for camping, fishing, and hunting information. Her knowledge of park facilities, rules and regulations, combined with her customer service and candor, she continues to be a valued volunteer on our team. Buffy functions on a daily basis without the need for constant supervision, and

always finds a way to stay busy, assist where needed, and learn more about project missions and Corps operations.

Buffy is well deserving of recognition by her peers here at Hensley Lake and receiving this coin is the least we can do to demonstrate our appreciation of her valued volunteer service and dedication.