

# Volunteer Program



Partnerships in NRM  
PROSPECT Course



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# The Corps Volunteer Program

Volunteers play an important role in protecting natural resources and maintaining recreation facilities at Corps projects.

**In 2018: 31,156 volunteers contributed 1,621,763 hours of work with an estimated value of \$40 million**

Volunteers can perform almost any task that a paid employee can:

- Park/Campground/Visitor Center hosts
- Interpretation/education
- Fish and wildlife habitat improvements
- Invasive species management
- Trail construction and maintenance
- Photography.... And more!



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# Why You Need Volunteers



- Budget realities do not allow you to accomplish your mission with the staff you have.



- Volunteers are your link to the local community. They are often some of the best advocates of the Corps of Engineers and our partners.

- Volunteers have unique skills and abilities that you can draw on.... Anything from a lifetime of experience to the strength and enthusiasm of youth



Every position we fill with paid staff, is a missed opportunity to engage the community and build our constituency.

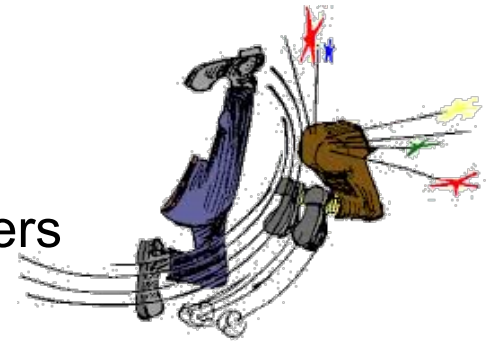


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# What Volunteers Can and Can't Do

- Volunteers can perform almost any task that a paid employee can do, provided they have received training or have experience.
- They can perform duties that once were, or are currently preformed by Corps employees.
- Cannot:
- Enforce Title 36
- Create policy
- Volunteers will not be used to displace any personnel of the Corps of Engineers



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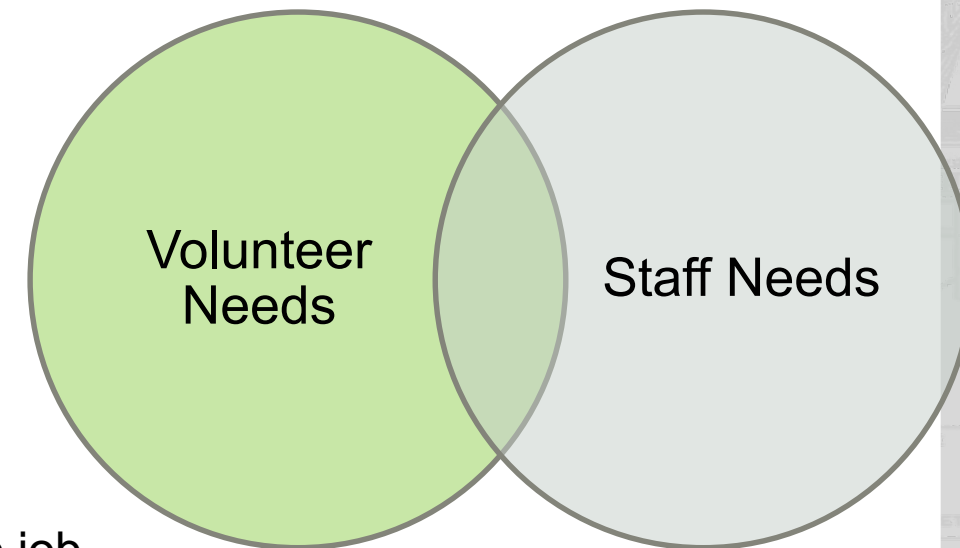


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# Creating Strategic Volunteer Jobs

- What problem are you trying to solve or what community need are you trying to meet?
- What are the forces contributing to that problem/ what are the obstacles you must overcome to solve the problem?
- Which strategies can you afford to pursue with paid staff?
- What can volunteers do to pursue the other strategies?



## Example: Carters Lake "Volunteer Hub"

- List of tasks that need to be done and hours earned for doing the job
- Volunteers select the job they want to do and sign up on the board
- Each job has list of equipment needed and where to find it
- Result = More productive/happier volunteers/less supervision needed



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# Motivating Your Volunteers

- It is the volunteer coordinator's goal to achieve planned results through other people, by giving them:
  - Ownership
  - Responsibility for outcomes
  - Authority to think
  - A defined way to determine success
- Create a sense of community
- When you find good volunteers, inquire about their future plans. Let them know you want them back.
- Have FUN. Having fun and spending time with your volunteers is better than any certificate or award.



# Volunteer Management

- Assigning work/Job Hazard Analysis
- Recognizing if your volunteer is the wrong person for a particular task



- Dealing with difficult people
- Don't avoid having difficult discussions.
- Know when to cut someone loose.



“I take it this department has had conflicts.”



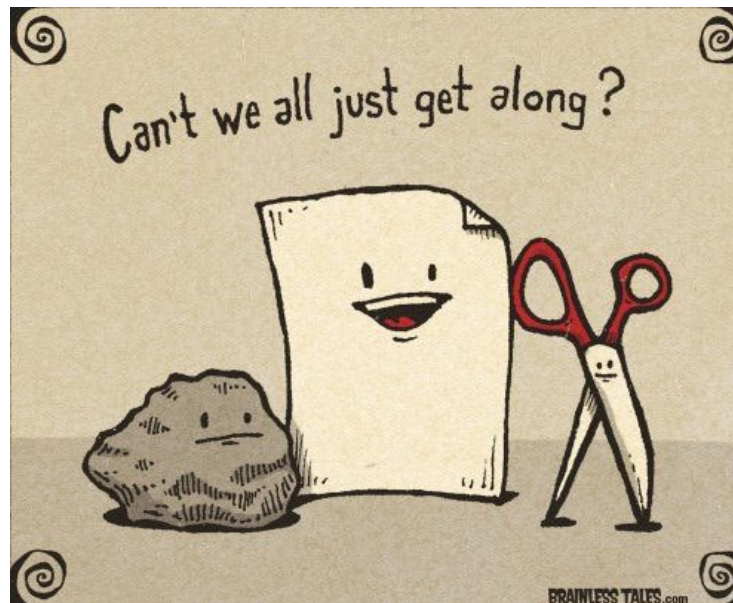
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# Volunteer Management Exercise

1. In teams of 2 or 3, use scenario cards to role play situations you might encounter. One group member will play the role of the volunteer, another will be the volunteer coordinator.
2. Class discussion: How did it go? Any best practices?



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# Volunteer Program Authority/Policy

- **33 USC 569c (Public Law 98-63), Amended by WRRDA 2014 Sec 1047(d):** Gave the Chief of Engineers the authority to accept the services of volunteers and provide for their incidental expenses, **including expenses relating to uniforms, transportation, lodging, and the subsistence of those volunteers** to carry out any activity of the Corps except policy making, law or regulatory enforcement.
- **ER/EP 1130-2-500**, Chapter 10 Corps of Engineers Volunteer Program. Superseded by 12 August 2016 “Implementation Guidance for Section 1047 (d) Services of Volunteers, of the Water Resources and Reform Development Act (WRRDA) 2014, Public Law 113-121”  
*(Currently working to convert 2016 guidance into ER/EP format)*
- **Policy Letter 04-01**, October 2004: Established the Corps use of the Independent Sector’s hourly rate to determine the value of service
  - FY19 rate = \$25.43 (Updated each April)



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# Legal Alien/Permanent Resident Volunteers

- Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)



Foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp or temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine-readable immigrant visa (MRIV)



Appendix E of ER: Examples of acceptable documentation forms

- Volunteer service may be accepted from legal aliens (permanent residents) or foreign exchange students.
- Must present J-1 or F-1 Student Visa (or passport if in the U.S. in tourist status from a visa-waiver country where visas are not required) or U.S. Permanent Resident Card INS Form I-551 (formerly known as Alien Registration Receipt Card) for review and verification.





# Background Checks

- **Required** for any volunteer in one or more of the following scenarios:
  - Individuals who volunteer for more than 180 calendar days in a year *(6 months consecutively)*
  - ~~Positions that require wearing the Corps volunteer clothing/name tag who work independently of Corps personnel~~ *(Work independently with unescorted access to controlled/locked spaces)*
  - Positions that work independently of USACE personnel that are regularly in contact with children under 18 without a parent or guardian present. *(\*Ref: Army Directive AD 2014-23)*
  - Positions that require access to government files and records
  - Positions that require the collection or handling of fees
  - Positions that require access to a Corps networked computer
  - Background checks are effective for ~~one year~~ *(Indefinitely as long as no 2 year break in service)*
  - Checks can be shared between districts/offices for same volunteer

*(Recent meeting with HQUSACE Chief of Security will lead to revisions in the ER/EP update)*



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# Volunteer Background Investigation Procedures and Requirements Decision Matrix

	Volunteer Type	Level of Background Investigation (BI) Required	Security Office Involvement/ Processes BI	Background Investigation Expiration	Notes
Level 1	One-time event	None required, but may choose to use local contractor at project level or District Security Office to run FBI fingerprints	No (Unless running an FBI fingerprint check)	N/A	
	Only work under LOSS by USACE personnel with infrequent contact with minors				
Level 2	Less than 6 consecutive months and do not meet any of the scenarios below	Special Agreement Check (SAC) FBI fingerprint check	Yes	SAC valid for lifetime as long as there is not a 2 year break in service.	Fingerprints may be done at military base, District Office, law enforcement office, etc.
	Work independently of USACE personnel with unescorted access into controlled space/non-public areas				
	Require access to government files/records				
Level 3	Collection/handling of fees	Tier 1: FBI fingerprints, SF 85, and OF 306 using PSIP and EQIP	Yes	BI valid for lifetime as long as there is not a 2 year break in service.	Volunteer may begin their service once their SAC results (FBI fingerprint check), SF85 and OF 306 forms have been favorably reviewed by the District Security Office for no adverse information, and the SF 85 and OF 306 forms have been submitted to OPM through the PSIP to process the full investigation.
	Volunteering more than 6 consecutive months			BI valid for 5 years	
	Involving regular contact with children under 18 years without a parent or guardian present and without constant LOSS by USACE personnel			BI valid for lifetime as long as there is not a 2 year break in service. VOLAC valid for 5 years.	
	Requiring USACE networked computer access/VOLAC card				



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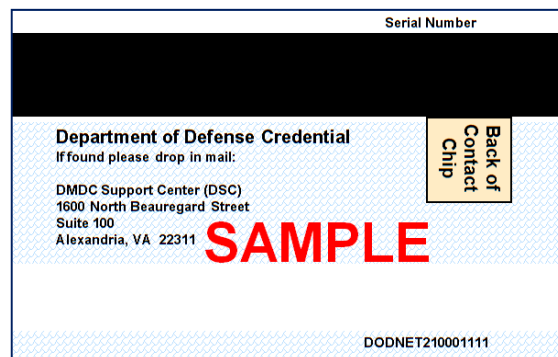
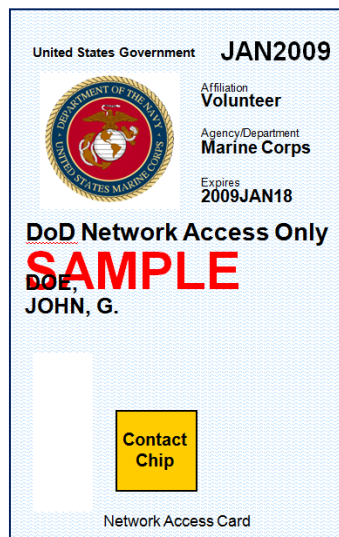
# Computer Access For Volunteers

- Volunteers requiring government computer access connected to Department of Defense (DOD) networks must be issued a Volunteer Logical Access Credential (VOLAC) card.



- There is no cost for the VOLAC card, but there may be a cost associated with obtaining the required fingerprints during the background check process.

- Volunteers who only use stand alone government computers that are not connected to a DoD network do not require a VOLAC



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# Volunteer Duties

## Red Path

- (1) Volunteer positions that require access to a Corps networked computer.

## Blue Path

- (2) Volunteer positions that require the collection or handling of fees.
- (3) Volunteer positions that require access to government files and records.
- (4) Individuals who volunteer for more than 120 calendar days in a year.
- (5) Volunteer positions that require wearing the Corps volunteer clothing/name tag who work independently of Corps personnel.

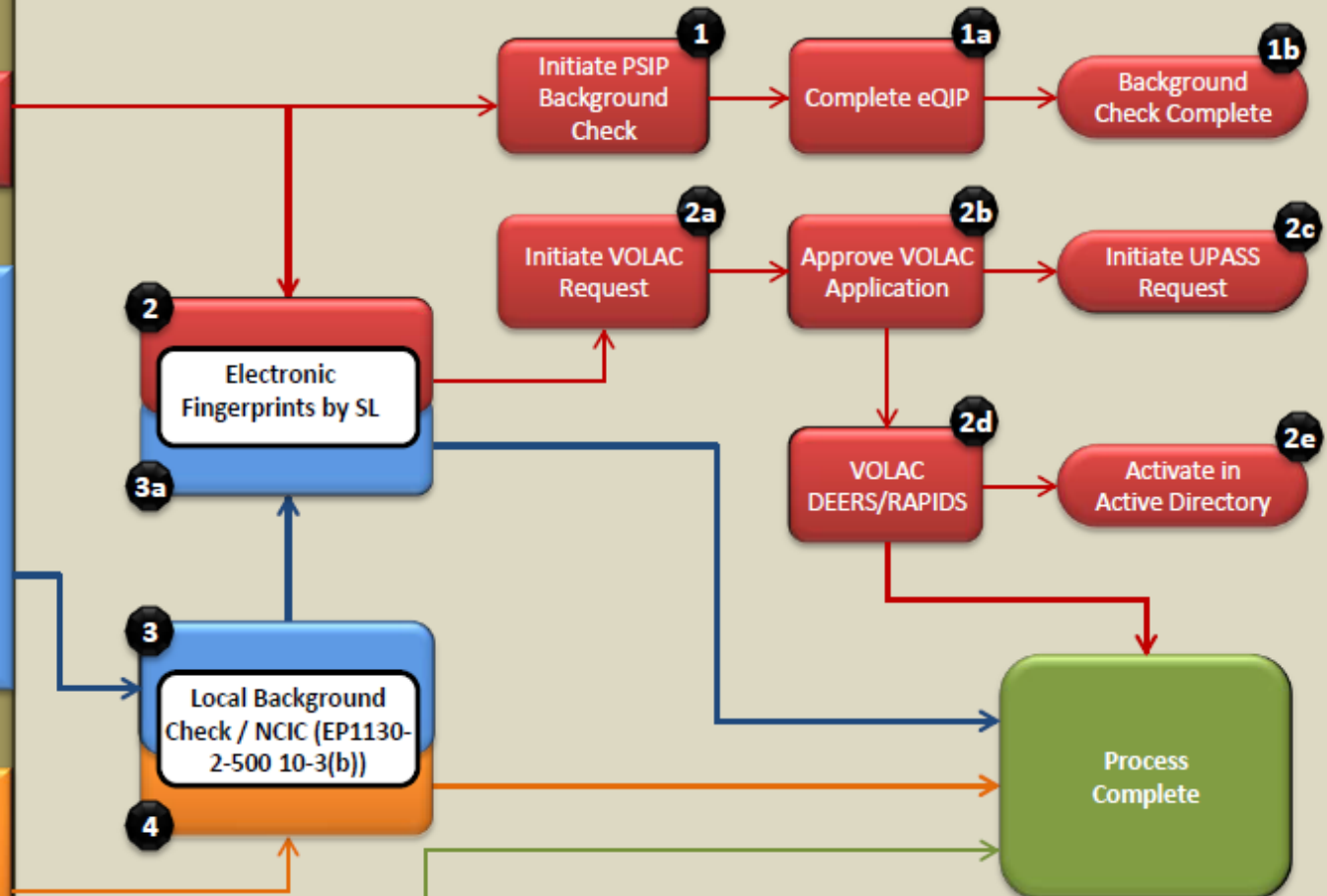
## Orange Path

- (6) Individuals who volunteer for less than 120 days and who do not meet any of the scenarios as described in 1-5.
- (7) Volunteers who only work in proximity and direct supervision by a Corps employee.

## Green Path

- (8) Individuals who volunteer for one-time events (14-days or less).

# MVR Volunteer Security Process Map

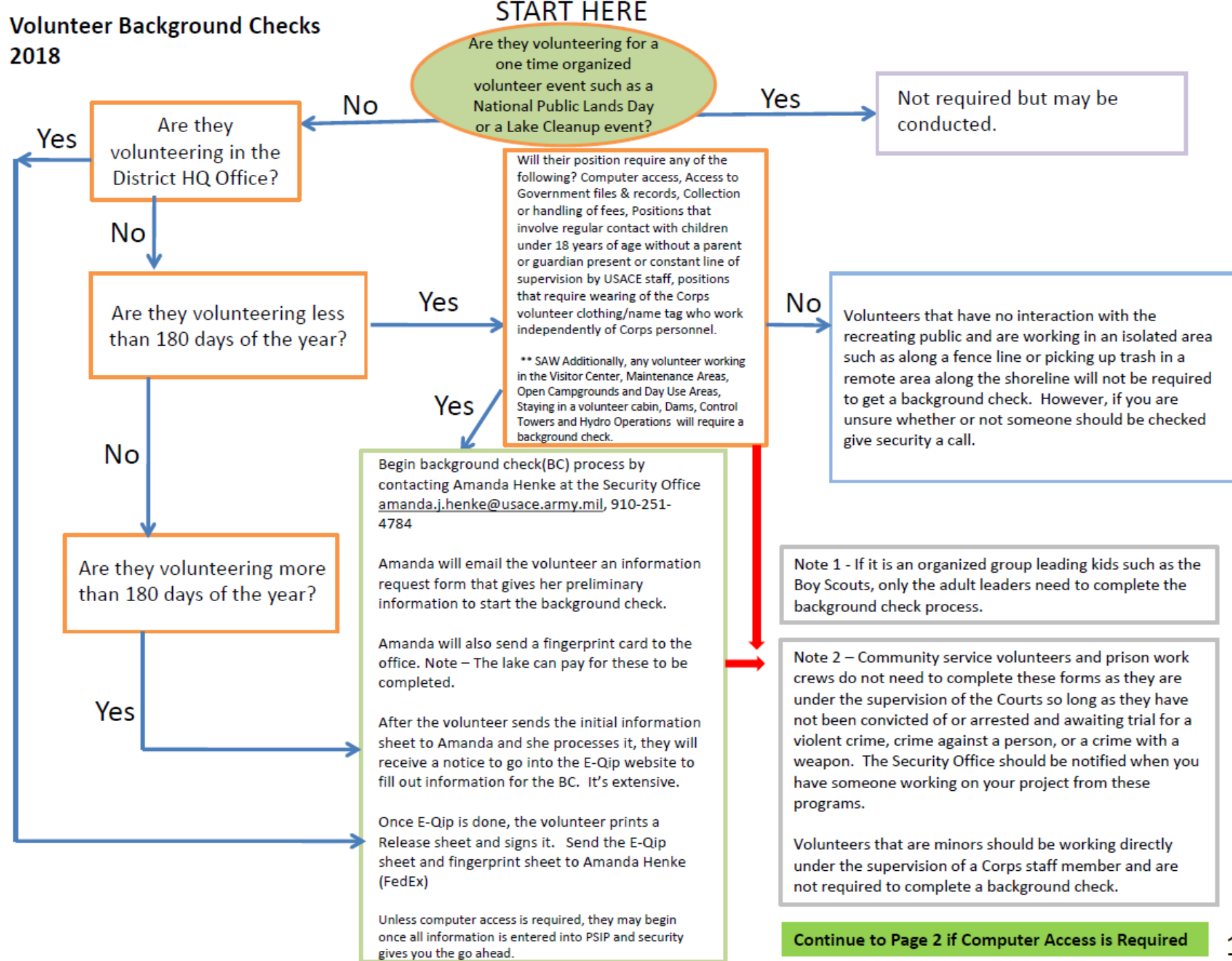


- Volunteer Logistic Access Credentials (VOLAC) Path
- Electronic Fingerprint Path
- Local Background Check Path
- No Background Check Path



# Background Check/VOLAC Flow Chart

(Provided by SAW)



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# Children Volunteers

- Children under the age of eighteen years may be volunteers, provided they have the written consent of their parent or guardian on the OF 301a Volunteer Service Agreement form.
- If children are volunteering as part of a group, the leader must provide a complete list of group participants and separate OF 301a agreements signed by the parents/guardians for all participants under the age of eighteen.
- Used to accept the form of another organization (school, youth group, Boy Scouts, etc)
- Army General Counsel ruled that signing another organization's consent form is not sufficient to protect USACE.



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# Surety Bonds

- When the LWCFA was repealed, the Corps was no longer required to bond volunteers, and also had no authority to pay for bonds. This did not impact the use of bonds for contractors.
- Bottom line: The Corps can continue to use volunteers to collect fees under the authority of 33 USC 569c.
- Volunteers need to go through the same fee collection training as a government employee and must sign a statement on the volunteer agreement that states the person accepts the risk and liability of handling government funds.
- Volunteers may pay for their own bonds, but it is not a requirement.
- Comment from Army General Counsel: Surety bonds are normally used to protect against default of a contractual obligation. It is inconsistent for USACE to require volunteers to obtain a surety bond when USACE employees are not required to do so.

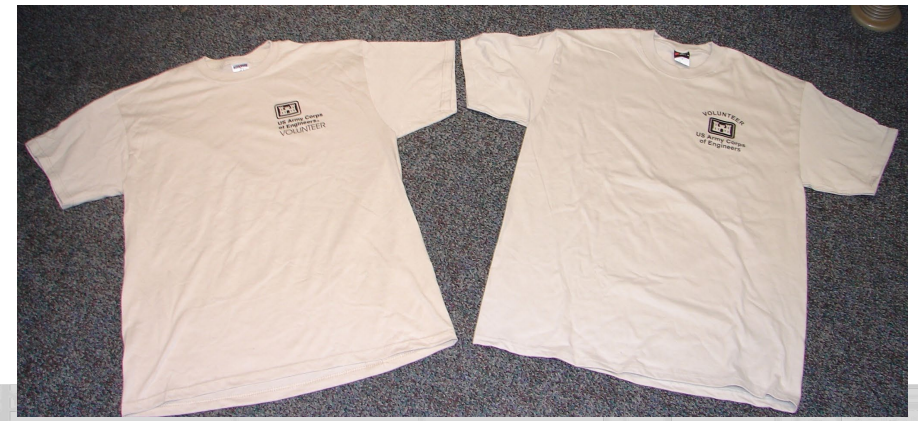


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# Volunteer Clothing

- Official Corps volunteer clothing items must be purchased from the Corps uniform contract provider. Local purchase of similar items to the contract in different colors is not authorized.
- Multiple quantities of items may be provided to an individual. (Recommend 1 clean shirt per day of work week.)
- Volunteers are not authorized to wear the NRM uniform patch or any other item of the official NRM Class A-B-C-D uniform.
- For volunteers performing maintenance duties, T-shirts may be ordered from a local vendor with the Corps logo and “Volunteer”, but must be in colors similar to those offered under the uniform contract, with the exception of safety colored shirts and reflective materials.



# Volunteer Clothing

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Available from VF Imagewear:

- Vests: red
- Sweatshirt jacket: red
- Winter ball cap: white/black
- Summer ball cap: khaki or red
- Name Plate
- Patch (by request to uniform committee)



CO4105 Unisex RD  
Vest



CO5127 Unisex RD  
Volunteer Hooded  
Jacket



CO7169 Unisex KH  
Summer Ball Cap



CO7170 Unisex RD  
Summer Ball Cap



CO7171 Unisex BG/BK  
Volunteer Ball Cap



CO7172 Unisex RD  
Magnetic Volunteer  
Nameplate



CO7173 Unisex RD  
Pinback Volunteer  
Nameplate

## To order:

Website: <https://www.vfsolutions.com/lma/>

**Account Number:** UAA code in CAPS (or project code - typically 5-6 letters total, with 3 letters for district and 2-3 letters for project.)

**Example:** LRNOLD is the code for Old Hickory Lake in the Nashville District.

**Password:** UAA code in CAPS (same as above Account #).

Click on USACE logo, Enter Acct # and PW and click LOGIN, Click on CONTINUE

Go to PRODUCTS and select VOLUNTEER PROGRAM from the dropdown menu

Use the government VISA credit card to purchase.



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# Food/Beverage Purchases

- Food and beverages may be provided to volunteers only when such subsistence is incidental to the rendering of volunteer services.
- The GPC card may only be used to purchase food with prior written approval from the District Commander.
- Volunteers may be reimbursed for meals during the period of volunteer work, which shall not exceed the GSA schedule for government per diem.
- Meals and beverages provided for a recognition event are not incidental to the rendering of volunteer services, and are therefore impermissible.
- Any food or beverages purchased under this policy must be reviewed and approved by the District Resource Management Office (RM) and documented (i.e. email or Memorandum for Record (MFR)).





# Volunteer Lodging

- Volunteers may be provided modest lodging at the project where their service occurs and not be required to pay a user fee.
- Districts may use appropriated funds to rent, purchase, or construct volunteer accommodations.
- Permissible lodging may include mobile homes, RVs, campers, cabins, hotel rooms, apartments, former government housing, or campsites.
- Accommodations should be noted on the volunteer agreement.



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# Volunteer Transportation

- Reimbursement for transportation expenses to and from a volunteer's residence may be authorized if within a reasonable commute
- Reimbursement for POV mileage will not exceed rates identified in the JTR.
- Long distance travel may be reimbursed in cases where it can be shown that the services of the volunteer are of exceptional value.
- Invitational travel orders approved at the District level shall be used for long distance travel.
- Long distance reimbursement will not exceed the amount identified in the JTR
- Transportation may include any mode recognized by the JTR, including POV, public transportation, trains, and airplanes.



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# Volunteer Appreciation

Print Form    E-mail

United States Army  
Corps of Engineers



## Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to:

In appreciation and recognition of your  
generous contribution.

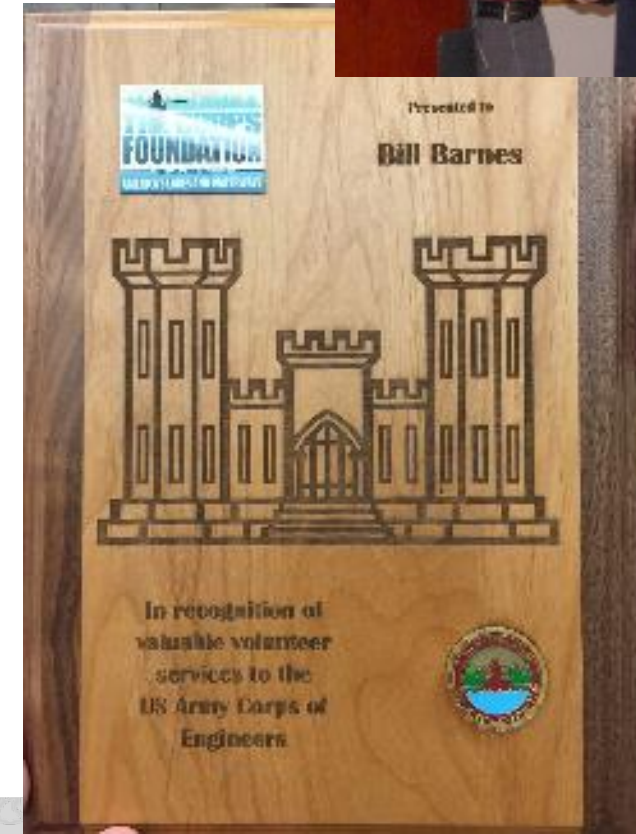
ENG FORM 4883, SEP 2012      PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE.      Proponent CECW-O (EP 1130-2-500)

- Projects are encouraged to show appreciation for volunteer services received. Volunteers may be issued a certificate of appreciation to acknowledge their service, as well as be featured in articles, on websites, and thanked in person.
- Items such as celebration meals, appreciation gifts, or cash awards are not authorized for purchase with appropriated funds for volunteers, but may be donated by Friends groups, cooperating associations, or other partners to recognize outstanding volunteers.

- Individual and family/couple volunteers are now eligible for the Enduring Service Award, National Volunteer Award and Volunteer Excellence Coins, sponsored by the Corps Foundation



# National Volunteer Award



2015: Hugh Clark, Shenango River Lake (LRP)

2016: Bill Barnes, Lake Ouachita (MVK)

2017: Will & Judy Carter, Saylorville Lake (MVR)

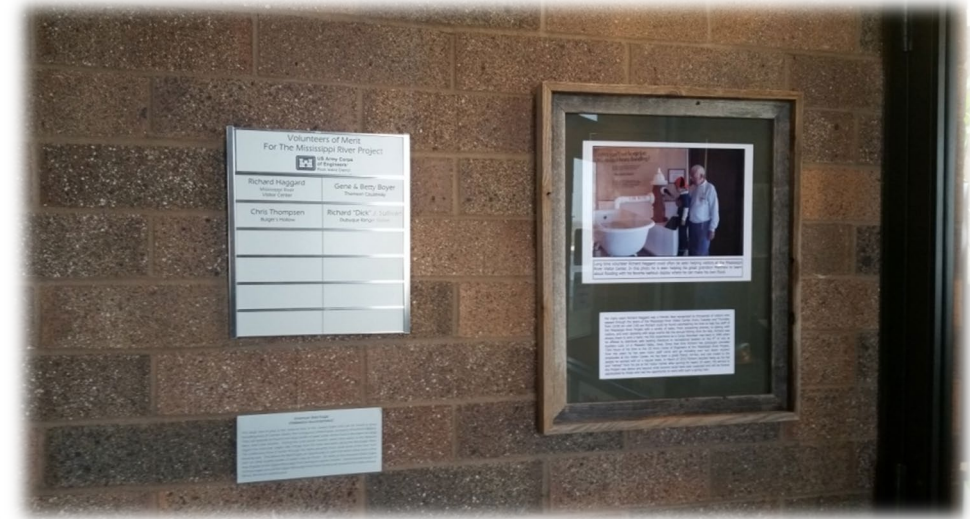
2018: Melody & Randy Parks, Lucky Peak (NWW)





# Volunteer Appreciation

## Volunteer Appreciation Walls





# Volunteer Pass Program: Corps Pass

- Approved in November 2012: enables volunteers who have served a minimum of 100 hours at Corps managed areas to receive a free Annual Day Use Pass
- Volunteers can accumulate hours at multiple Corps projects.
- Volunteer hours will be verified and entered by volunteer coordinators in a centralized database.
- Database launched in late May 2013 <https://gateway.erdc.dren.mil/nrm/vhs/>
- <https://gateway.erdc.dren.mil/nrm/vhs/district.cfm> (District access)
- 45 lakes participating with 446 passes issued between 2013 - 2018
- Supplemented by the ATB Volunteer pass in 2016



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# Volunteer Pass Program: ATB Pass



- Went into effect on January 1, 2016 when the Corps fully implemented the America the Beautiful pass program
- 250 hours of cumulative service = free America the Beautiful Volunteer Pass
- Volunteers can accumulate hours at Corps, BLM, BOR, FWS, USFS, and NPS sites. Hours earned at other agencies must be verified by the volunteer's prior coordinator.
- Volunteer hours earned at Corps lakes will be verified and entered by volunteer coordinators in the centralized database that is also used for the Corps pass.
- Covers entrance fees and day use fees at participating agencies for one year from date of issuance



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# Volunteer Coin Program

- Created in May 2015. Sponsored by the Corps Foundation
- Coins awarded to regional nominees for the National Volunteer Award and national winner, and to volunteers who perform extraordinary acts of service
- New larger coin recently developed





# Volunteer Safety

- The same safety briefings, trainings, and equipment provided to Corps personnel will also be provided to volunteers
- Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) must be completed and signed by the Corps volunteer coordinator/supervisor and the volunteer, and saved with the Volunteer Agreement form
- Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA) may also be completed for specific one time tasks/events, or to supplement the JHA
- Samples of JHAs and AHAs on the Gateway
- Injuries to volunteers are reported in the same manner as those involving Corps personnel: CA-1 & CA-16 (must be filled out by a Dr).

## ACTIVITY HAZARD ANALYSIS

ACTIVITY: Entering excavations or trenches

ANALYZED BY/DATE: Bill Clevenger  
13 April 2002

REVIEWED BY/DATE:

PRINCIPAL STEPS	POTENTIAL SAFETY/HEALTH HAZARDS	RECOMMENDED CONTROLS
<i>Ensure work area is safe</i>	<i>Injuries to head or feet, falls</i>	<i>Wear hardhat, safety-toed shoes and safety glasses. Use ladders for access or exit of excavations</i>
<i>Entering excavations/trenches</i>	<i>Slide slope failure. Shoring collapse</i>	<i>Excavation/trench sides should be sloped according to the OSHA Regulations concerning side slopes for excavations/trenches. Do <b>not</b> enter an excavation/trench unless you feel it is safe. all unsecured objects should be moved away from the edge of the excavation/trench. Assure that slopes are according to regulation or approved shoring and ladders are used. Reference EM385-1-1, Section 23.</i>
<i>Briefly inspect excavation/trench side slopes or shoring</i>	<i>Objects falling into excavation/trench</i>	<i>All materials should be moved at least two feet from the edge of the excavation</i>
<i>Exit excavation/trench</i>	<i>Falling off ladder</i>	<i>See JHA for "Using Ladders". Do <b>not</b> use a backhoe bucket to enter/exit an excavation/trench</i>

# Volunteer Reporting in NRM Assessment/OMBIL

- Volunteer data must be captured each year during October in the NRM Assessment tool
- Annual Project Data Update: Record total number of volunteers, volunteer hours, and reimbursable expenses
- Annual Partnerships Update: Record number of volunteers and volunteer hours that the partner provides
- Hours served by SCA and other youth conservation corps groups should be entered as volunteer hours in both update sections.



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# Volunteer Data Decision Tree

Available on NRM Assessment/OMBIL Partnerships FAQ page and Volunteer Program FAQs page:

<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/faqs.cfm?Id=partner-OMBIL&Nav=partner&View=Yes>

<https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/employees/faqs.cfm?Id=volunteer&View=Yes>

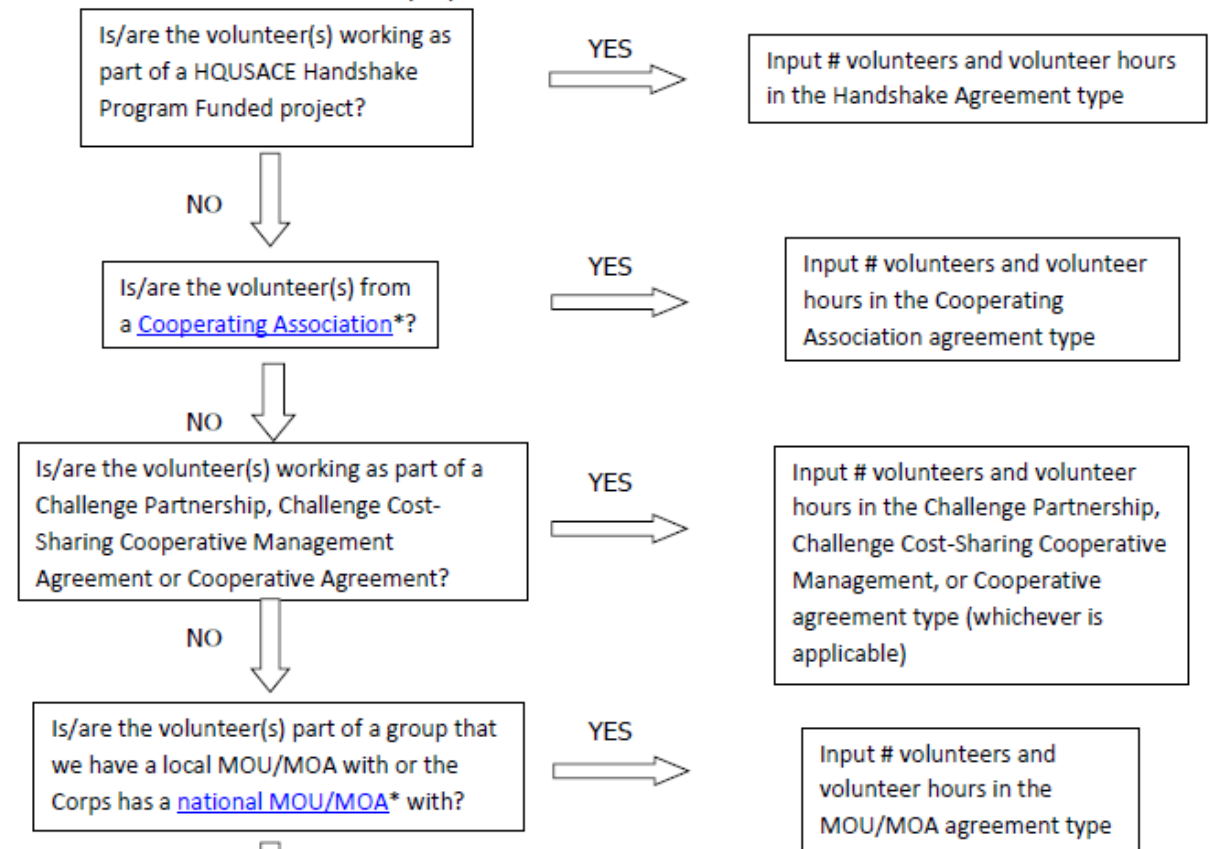
## Step 1. NRM Assessment Tool NRM Module, Step 1- Volunteer Information

Enter ALL volunteer hours in this section of the NRM Assessment Tool. This is where you will capture the total number of volunteers, total hours of volunteer service (which will auto-calculate the total value of the service), and total incidental expenses reimbursed to all volunteers for the FY.

## Step 2. NRM Assessment Tool Partnership Module

In addition to gathering information about the overall number of volunteers, hours, and value, we are also trying to capture more detailed data about volunteers that are part of a partnership. Some volunteers such as camp hosts, gate attendants, and other individuals who volunteer may only be counted in the NRM Module update. Other volunteers that are part of a partner organization should also have their hours counted in the Partnership Module update.

Please use the flow chart below to determine whether to count a particular individual volunteer's or group of volunteers' hours in the Partnership Update section of OMBIL.





# Volunteer Program Forms

- **OF 301:** Volunteer Application (Approved by OMB for all agency use)
- **OF 301a:** Volunteer Agreement (Approved by OMB for all agency use)
- **OF 301b:** Volunteer Group Agreement (for adult groups)
- **ENG Form 4882-R:** Volunteer Service Record
- **Standard Form 1164:** Claim for Reimbursement for Expenditures on Official Business (Volunteer's incidental expenses)
- **Standard Form 87:** Federal Employee and Military Fingerprint Card (Used for background checks for VOLAC card)
- **Standard Form 85:** Questionnaire for Non-Sensitive Positions (for VOLAC)
- **OPM 306:** Declaration for Federal Employment (for VOLAC)



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# Volunteer Clearinghouse Closure

- USACE has been using two volunteer recruitment websites since 2002
  - Volunteer Clearinghouse (used only by USACE)
  - Volunteer.gov (used by 10 federal land management agencies)
- Volunteer Clearinghouse contract expires on December 31 and will not be renewed.
- USACE will continue to use Volunteer.gov along with the other federal agencies
- Starting in 2020, District volunteer coordinators will be given access to volunteer.gov to post and administer the opportunities for the projects within their districts.
- Training sessions will be conducted in early 2020
- Heather Burke and Bobby Jackson (LRN) will serve as USACE administrators and will respond to general inquiries via the 800-VOL-TEER toll-free phone number and [volunteer.gov@usace.army.mil](mailto:volunteer.gov@usace.army.mil) email address



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# Resources: NRM Gateway

<https://corpslakes.erdcdren.mil/employees/volunteer/volunteer.cfm>

## Natural Resources Management Gateway

*to the future . . .*



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Home Visitors Lake Discovery Recreation Env Compliance Env Stewardship Partners ?  
News/Events People Forums Learning GETS Tools New Postings Submit Index/Search ?

## Volunteer Program

### [Headquarters POC](#)

Corps projects offer many volunteer opportunities in recreation and natural resources management. Volunteers can serve as park and campground hosts, staff visitor centers, conduct programs, clean shorelines, restore fish and wildlife habitat, maintain park trails and facilities, and more. Corps personnel can recruit their own volunteers or get help from the [Volunteer Clearinghouse](#), (1-800-VOL-TEER or 1-800-865-8337), a national information center for people interested in volunteering at Corps projects across the country. Corps offices that have upcoming projects or events that volunteers can assist with may use the Volunteer Clearinghouse to [submit their volunteer projects on-line](#).

- [Policy & Procedures](#)
- [Volunteer Forms](#)
- [Program History](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Volunteer Clearinghouse](#)
- [Related Sites](#)
- [National Public Lands Day](#)
- [Division & District POCs](#) 
- [Volunteer Awards](#)
- [Volunteer Program Annual Reports](#)
- [News / Current Issues](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Good Enough to Share](#)
- [Volunteer Clothing, Posters, and Brochures](#)
- [Volunteer Plans and Handbooks](#)
- [Job/Activity Hazard Analyses](#)
- [Background Checks/Volunteer Computer Access](#)
- [Corps Photo Album for Volunteers](#)
- [Volunteer Pass Program](#)

Volunteer





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**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 expertise.

**WHEN CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?**  
Volunteer opportunities are available for a day, a weekend, or long-term. Positions range from office work to vigorous physical outdoor labor. You may work part time or full time, anytime of the year.

**HOW TO VOLUNTEER**  
Contact a nearby USACE lake visitor center or office and talk to a park ranger to learn more. You can also apply online and view volunteer opportunities across the nation at [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov).



Libby Dam  
US Army Corps of Engineers



**US Army Corps of Engineers.**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



**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.

**WHY 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/experience.

**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.

**WHERE CAN YOU SERVE?**  
USACE lakes and river projects are located throughout the United States. Visit [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov) to find an opportunity. Additional information about USACE lakes can be found at [www.corpslakes.us](http://www.corpslakes.us).

**Volunteering:**  
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!

**How our volunteers help:**

**Recreation**

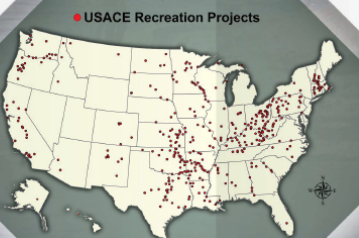
- Build and maintain trails
- Serve as campground/visitor center hosts
- Conduct educational programs and tours
- Develop and build displays
- Maintain facilities
- Collect fees

**Natural Resource Management**

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

**Administration**

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



**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 expertise.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

**WHEN CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?**

Volunteer opportunities are available for a day, a weekend, or long-term. Positions range from office work to vigorous physical outdoor labor. You may work part time or full time, anytime of the year.



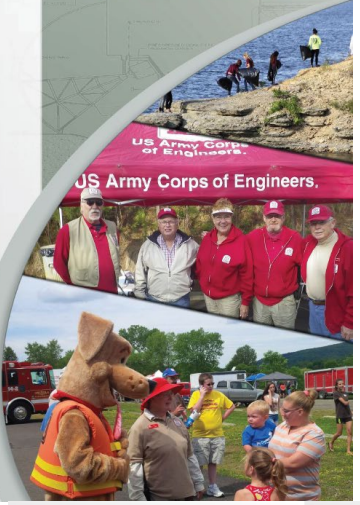
**HOW TO VOLUNTEER**

Contact a nearby USACE lake visitor center or office and talk to a park ranger to learn more. You can also apply online and view volunteer opportunities across the nation at [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov).



**US Army Corps of Engineers.**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



**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.

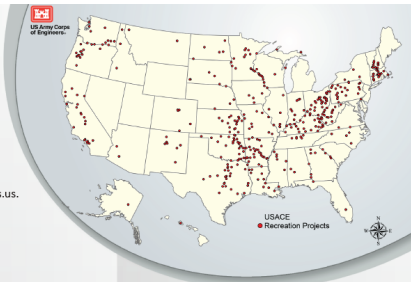
USACE is one of the nation's leading federal providers of outdoor recreation with more than 400 lake and river projects in 43 states, and stewardship responsibilities covering approximately 12 million acres of public lands and waters. Our volunteers are people who want to give back to their communities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



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

**WHERE CAN YOU SERVE?**

USACE lakes and river projects are located throughout the United States. Visit [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov) to find an opportunity. Additional information about USACE lakes can be found at [www.corpslakes.us](http://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 debris

**Administration**

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

**WHY 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/experience.

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

**Resources:  
Volunteer  
Brochures:  
2 options**



# Resources: Corps Lakes Photo Album

<https://corpslakes.erc.dren.mil/visitors/album.cfm?Option=View&Id=0&Activity=Volunteers>

**Corps Lakes Photo Album**  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Take a virtual trip of our lakes:  
[Corps Lakes Gateway](#) > [Corps Photo Album - How to get photos added?](#)

## Volunteers

Select a Corps of Engineers Lake  Select an Activity

**Photo 1:**   
*Photo by: Mary Margaret Lewis*  
USACE Volunteers in Action- 1st Place

**Photo 2:**   
*Photo by: Eric Haskell*  
USACE Volunteers in Action- 2nd place

**Photo 3:**   
*Photo by: Robert Carr*  
USACE Volunteers in Action- Honorable Mention

**Photo 4:**   
*Photo by: Mindy Cory*  
Volunteers in Action - 2nd place

**Photo 5:**   
Bardwell Lake

**Photo 6:**   
Bardwell Lake

**Photo 7:**

**Photo 8:**

**Starburst:** We Need Your Photos!!

# Resources: Volunteer Clearinghouse

<http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/Volunteer-Clearinghouse/>

800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337)

POC: LRN- Bobby Jackson (615) 736-7192



[HOME](#) > [MISSIONS](#) > [CIVIL WORKS](#) > [RECREATION](#) > [VOLUNTEER CLEARINGHOUSE](#)

## Volunteer Resources

[Volunteer Clearinghouse](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Volunteers in Action](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Submit a listing](#)

## Useful Links

[Water Safety](#)

[Corps Lakes Gateway](#)

[USACE Natural Resources](#)

[Education Foundation](#)

## Volunteer Clearinghouse

Welcome to the US Army Corps of Engineers Volunteer Clearinghouse. The Corps of Engineers, which is the steward of almost 12 million acres of land and water, offers many volunteer opportunities to care for recreation facilities and natural resources.

The Volunteer Clearinghouse serves the Corps of Engineers nationwide to link potential volunteers with Park Rangers at lakes and waterways that need them. The clearinghouse provides information about the volunteer program and directs people to the point of contact, usually a Park Ranger, at the lake or location of interest.

Callers should be ready to provide information about their interests, talents, dates available and locations they may want to volunteer.

Corps Park Rangers, serving as volunteer coordinators, can also use the Volunteer Clearinghouse to help find volunteers. Volunteer coordinators that need volunteers can send their volunteer vacancies to the Clearinghouse to be listed on the website.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Campground Host

**SHUTTING DOWN: January 1, 2020**

ps  
®





# Volunteer.gov Update

- New interagency contract set up September 2018, managed by NPS
- Used by 9 federal agencies and 22 state partners
- Higher security for PII protection, mobile platform, social media, online application, more user friendly
- Currently under development. Projected launch: January 2020

