

VOLUNTEER INTEREST PROFILE

DESCRIPTIONS OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Refuge Work Days: Work with groups on a variety of work projects including home site cleanups, vernal pool clearing, roadside cleanups, and more. Scheduled as needed; e-mail distribution list alert.

Mowing: Assist the staff mowing lawns around the Visitor Center, Refuge Headquarters, and other refuge facilities as needed from spring through fall. Training on equipment provided.

Wildlife Observation Center Maintenance: Join a volunteer crew to keep the boardwalk area in good condition by trimming brush, weeding, stone dust replacement. Ongoing and special scheduled projects.

Pleasant Plains Road Maintenance: Assist volunteer crews for scheduled and ongoing roadside trimming and cleanup including Overlook area.

Invasive Plant Control: Join volunteer crews for scheduled chemical and manual control of invasive species.

GardenKeepers: Help plan and maintain display gardens at the visitor center. Scheduled work days during the year and various other times as needed.

Visitor Center/Nature Shop Staffing: Greet visitors and introduce them to the refuge and the visitor center. Use the cash register to make sales. At least one 3 or 4-hour shift per month, Thursday through Sunday, year-round. Ongoing training provided.

Wildlife Observation Center Staffing: Greet visitors and introduce them to the refuge and the boardwalk area. Share reported sightings and hand out boardwalk bingo game to children. At least one 3-hour shift per month, Wednesday through Sunday, spring and fall.

Junior Refuge Manager: Assist children with Junior Refuge Manager Activity Book; set up viewing scopes on boardwalk and point out sightings to visitors. Training provided and in-depth workshops offered.

Assist at Special events: Help out in a variety of ways before, during, and after Fall Festival and other special events held during the year.

Conduct bird walks: Lead groups on scheduled birding walks, various seasons, public and restricted access areas.

Outreach: Provide information about the refuge and the Friends. Give talks to civic, garden, or other groups; staff displays and exhibits at other off-refuge events and festivals sponsored by other organizations.

Publicity: On a monthly basis, submit information to newspapers and web sites to publicize events at Great Swamp. Write press releases on special events.

Development: Assist the Friends' in fund raising and development efforts. Administrative support also needed to write donor acknowledgements. Time variable.