

# Allegheny County Park Stewards

## Job Description

The Allegheny County Park Stewards are caretakers for an area of an Allegheny County Park, with the goal of restoring and protecting its natural ecosystem. **This will be accomplished primarily by removing invasive and non-native plant species to provide for the return and growth of native plants and habitats.**

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Adopt a section of a park: area of ecological interest or trail/trail system.
- Identify and inventory plant and wildlife species and habitats. Document existing conditions and changes in site conditions.
- Work with Park Rangers to develop a management plan for removal of invasive plants and remove invasive plant species according to the plan.
- Monitor your adopted area thoroughly at least 6 times/year, for a minimum of 24 hours/year. On each site visit:
  - monitor site for return of invasive growth and eradicate as necessary
  - remove trash and debris
  - document and report conditions and changes to Park Rangers
- Assist Park Rangers with other stewardship activities on your adopted site, such as tree plantings, trail maintenance and wildlife habitat improvements.
- Help coordinate and lead volunteer teams for larger conservation projects in your adopted area.
  - Lead at least one volunteer group project per year

### Qualifications

- Have a love for your closest Allegheny County Park.
- Be willing to make a 2 to 3-year commitment to monitor an area of your favorite park.
- Be able to attend a required training session, to be offered annually in the Spring and Fall.
- Be able and willing to travel to your adopted park site.
- Be physically able and willing to use tools and perform moderately strenuous activities to remove invasive plants.
- Be personable and detail-oriented; have good communication and recordkeeping skills.
- Be at least 18 years of age.

### Benefits

- Free core training on invasive and native plant species identification, land stewardship and volunteer management.
- Work with Park Rangers, Park Stewards and other volunteers with a similar commitment to conservation.
- Get to know a beautiful piece of your favorite County Park in all seasons.
- Play a key role in caring for the Allegheny County Parks System.

- Have fun!

## Allegheny County Park Steward Agreement

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to adopt and assist with the care of a section of the Allegheny County Parks System in order to improve and preserve the natural communities and increase the recreational value of the park system.

***\*By signing below, I agree to meet all duties, responsibilities, and qualifications outlined in the "Allegheny County Park Stewards Job Description" and agree to follow all Allegheny County Parks rules and regulations and only perform tasks outlined by the Allegheny County Parks and Allegheny County Park Rangers.***

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Print Name

X

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Signature

Date