

Volunteer Updates

Volunteer Fun Pass Award

Watch your mailbox. Volunteer Fun Pass Awards are mailed in mid-November to all active volunteers with service hours during the 12-month period from Oct. 1, 2013 through Sept. 30, 2014. Privileges increase with hours of service. Be sure your volunteer hours are reported by Oct. 10. Contact the Volunteer Office for details about this award.

Volunteer Forest Tree Planting

Join us Sat. Nov. 8, 1:30 PM for a tree planting to recognize four volunteers for their significant service to Three Rivers Park District. A native tree is planted in the Volunteer Forest at Hyland Lake Park Reserve for each 250-hour milestone starting at 4,250 hours. Call for details.

Audrey Friedman: 5,750 hours

Roger Johnson: 4,250 hours

Gene Lau: 7,750 hours

Paul Schlick: 5,500 hours

Adult Natural Resources Series

Free for Three Rivers volunteers and \$5 for the general public, this series provides information on the various natural resources management activities and programs conducted in the Park District. The programs are aimed at interested adults (16 and older), especially volunteers, teachers, master naturalists, and master gardeners. The programs will be presented by Three Rivers Natural Resources staff and will be a combination of lecture and hands on demonstrations. See page 6 for details.

Kingswood Park

Kingswood Park is anticipated to open this fall for hiking in the northern portion of the park and along the shoreline of a nearby pond. Parking will be available; however, drinking water and restrooms are currently not available. Details online. www.ThreeRiversParks.org/parks.aspx



Last season Hyland Lake Park Reserve opened a 5K trail with snowmaking and lights, effectively increasing the average season from 60 to 100 days. The first season's use is estimated at 46,000 visits – over double the average seasonal use prior to snowmaking. Patrol volunteers are needed.

From Wood Skis to Snowmaking

Cross-country skiing is a Minnesota tradition. Starting in 1970 with fewer than 200 ski "tourers" on wood skis, Three Rivers now features 70 miles of groomed cross-country ski trails and served over 159,000 skiers during the 2013-14 ski season.

Consistent snow was always a dream and is now a reality at two Three Rivers locations. Hyland Lake Park Reserve in Bloomington opened a 5K trail with snowmaking and lights this past ski season, effectively increasing the average season from 60 to 100 days. The first season's use is estimated at 46,000 visits – over double the average seasonal use prior to snowmaking. Low energy LED trail lights, designed to minimize the impact on the night sky for the neighbors living around the park, make the trail usable during the dark hours before and after the work day. The restructured trail with snowmaking and lights is now a 5K system of three stacked loops (1K beginner, 3K intermediate/advanced, and 1K very advanced) designed for recreational and competitive use. The Elm Creek Winter Recreation Area in Maple Grove also operates a 2.5K ski trail with snowmaking which opened in 2004.

Volunteer Patrollers have been an important part of all ski areas in Three Rivers and are even more important with these recent changes. Hyland has more than doubled their need for patrol coverage and is hoping to attract more patrollers this fall. Park Patrol volunteers help skiers and year-round trail users by providing a safe and enjoyable experience. They are trained in first aid, CPR and patrol skills and volunteer on cross-country ski, walking, biking, snowshoeing, mountain biking and horse trails. Training for new patrollers begins in mid October (see page 3). Perks for volunteering include waived ski trail fees while patrolling

Getting Started



Three Rivers **WELCOMES** community members to share their talents, passion and energy to help carry out its mission.

Volunteers earn District-wide **BENEFITS** such as a Volunteer Fun Pass (which gives access to many park facilities at reduced rates or for free and provides greater rewards the more you volunteer) and hour-milestone awards such as pins, clothing, photos and tree plantings. Special training sessions and social gatherings may be offered by site or project basis.

Volunteers must be 16 years or older or accompanied by a responsible adult unless stated otherwise. Family volunteering is encouraged. Volunteer selection for each position is based on current needs, requirements of the position and successful completion of training. Certain positions also require a background check.

Review this newsletter for current needs. Call or email the contact person listed to find out more.

CONTACT US

Three Rivers Volunteer Resources Section

12615 County Road 9, Plymouth, MN 55441

E-mail: volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Main Phone: 763.559.6706 (Text Telephone: 763.559.6719)

Deb Vosler, Volunteer Resources Coordinator: 763.559.6704

Becca Conser, Volunteer Resources Specialist: 763.694.2070

Michelle Frank, Volunteer Resources Secretary: 763.694.7724

General Three Rivers Information:

763.559.9000, www.ThreeRiversParks.org

EXPLORE VOLUNTEERING AT THREE RIVERS

Explore opportunities, meet staff and get started!

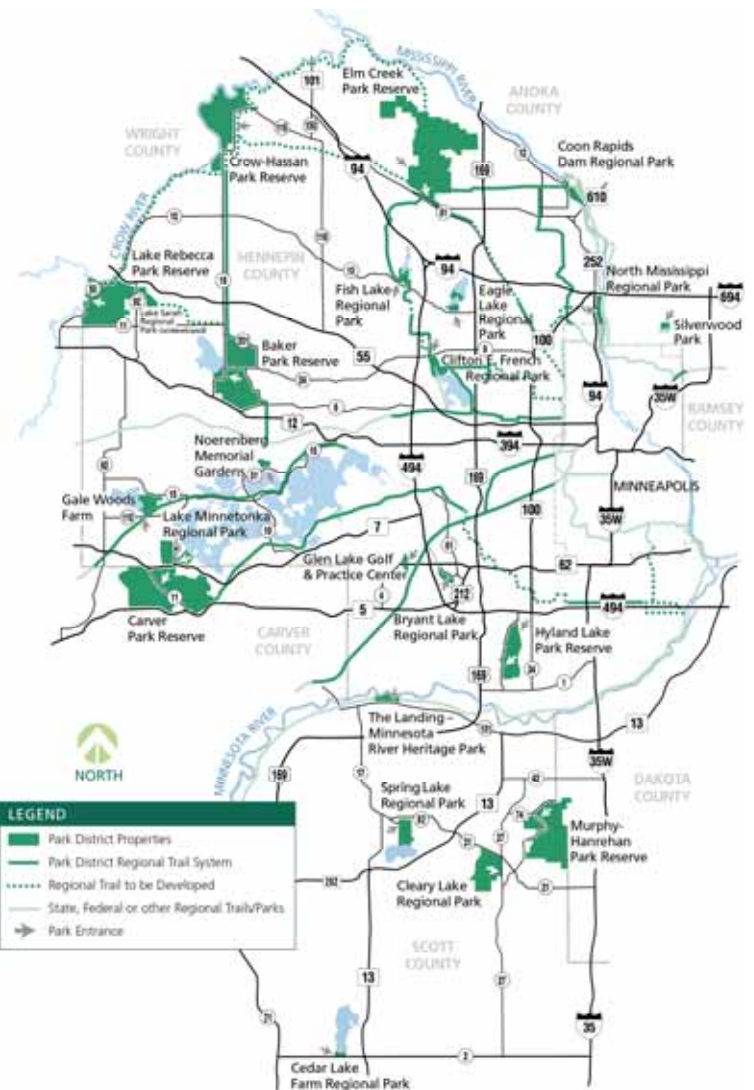
Sat. Sept. 20, 11 AM-5 PM, Silverwood

Sat. Dec. 20, noon-4 PM, The Landing

Meet staff and volunteers while exploring the many ways to give back at your favorite park. No need to register. Just drop in. For more information, visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer. You may also call or email Three Rivers Volunteer Resources staff or the staff listed for each site/work group.

Three Rivers Park District is a natural resources-based park system that manages park reserves, regional parks, regional trails, and special-use facilities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Three Rivers offers activities for every season, as well as programs for nature, recreation, history, art and farm education.

Three Rivers' mission is to promote environmental stewardship through recreation and education in a natural resources-based park system. Three Rivers owns and operates over 27,000 acres and serves 9.5 million visitors a year.



Volunteer Needs

Three Rivers volunteer opportunities are located across the Twin Cities metro area. The following listings show current recruitment needs and are arranged by work groups/sites. **For more information or to sign up, contact the designated staff member listed.**

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Most positions require an ongoing commitment. Openings vary.

Animal Care Assistant & Specialist

- **Assistant:** Feeds, handles and monitors animals; cleans equipment and cages/pens; prepares food; records data and performs other basic care duties as needed. Animals vary.
- **Specialist:** Requires higher skill level, training, responsibilities and time commitment.

Natural Resources Monitor & Surveyor

- **Monitor:** Observes and records data on numbers, health and behavior of wildlife or plant populations on a pre-set trail or area. May include cleaning and repairing of nesting boxes.
- **Surveyor:** Searches for wildlife or plant populations, nests, etc. May involve mapping, use of GPS or tracking devices, and ability to accurately identify targeted species. Prior knowledge and advanced skill level required.
- **Specialist:** Requires higher skill level, training and responsibilities.

Patroller

- **Park Patroller:** Provides information and basic level first aid care to guests year-round at designated facilities, trails, programs and events. Annual recertification required.
- **Ski Patroller:** Provides information and advanced level first aid care to guests at alpine ski areas (including a tubing hill and cross-country ski activities in immediate proximity to the hill). National Ski Patrol training, membership and annual recertification is required.

Program Assistant & Interpreter

- **Assistant:** Provides customer service assistance at programs, events and facilities.
- **Interpreter:** Provides presentation/teaching assistance at programs, events and facilities.
- **Specialist, Instructor:** Requires higher skill level, training and responsibilities.

Project Assistant & Specialist

- **Assistant:** Helps with various projects such as gardening, seed collection, invasive species removal, minor maintenance, displays, program materials prep, sewing, mailings, cataloging and whatever else may come up. (Short-term commitment may be possible.)
- **Specialist:** Requires higher skill level, training and responsibilities.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Three Rivers welcomes participation from community groups, students and scouts. Go to www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer.

Possibilities include: Global Youth Service Day, Garlic Mustard & Buckthorn Removal Events, Adopt-a-Woodlot, Adopt-a-Garden, Adopt-a-Trail, Prairie Seed Collection, Scouting Award Projects, Service Learning, and more.

Alpine Ski Areas

Jeannine Mogan, 763.694.7815,
jmogan@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Ski Patrollers (Alpine, Snowboard, XC Ski)

- Elm Creek Winter Recreation Area
Three Rivers Alpine Ski Patrol is a highly trained, regionally and nationally recognized group of volunteers. The demands of the position are high and so are the rewards. Patrollers must commit to a minimum of 50 hours each winter season, successfully complete and pass extensive emergency care training and maintain membership and current certifications with National Ski Patrol (NSP). The rewards are helping guests in need; gaining new skills through advanced level continuing education, hands-on experience and leadership opportunities; as well as earning alpine area privileges, Three Rivers volunteer privileges and discounts through NSP. Highly motivated, enthusiastic alpine skiers, cross-country skiers and boarders are encouraged to apply.

Facilities/Recreation Areas

Volunteer Office, 763.559.6706,
volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Park Patrollers

- Park Trails, Regional Trails, Events
Enjoy the parks and trails by bike, foot, skates, horse, cross-country skis or snowshoes while helping park guests with information and basic level first aid care. A one-year commitment is requested. Required annual training is offered in spring and fall. Visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer in late August for more information and how to register.
- New patroller training starts Wed. Oct. 15 & Sat. Mar. 14

Program Assistants

- Site Events
- Festival of Lights, Sat. Sept. 27, 1-9 PM in shifts, Baker (763.694.7663, bbolduan@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
- Autumn Woods Classic run/walk, Sat. Oct. 11, 7 AM-12:30 PM, Elm Creek (763.559.6706, volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
- Not-So-Scary Trick-or-Treat Event, Sat. Oct. 11, 1:30-5:30 PM, Hyland (763.694.7690, dfjell@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
- Baker Boo, Sat. Oct. 18, 12:30-4:30 PM, campground (763.694.7693, csweeney@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
- Trail Mix, Sat. Apr. 18, 5:30 AM-2:30 PM in shifts, Lake Rebecca (763.694.2070, rconser@threeriversparkdistrict.org)



Volunteer Needs

Outdoor Education

Help support nature, recreation, history, farm and arts education programs. Join a volunteer work group at a program site or one that travels around the Park District. Check out this listing to get started. More opportunities are available to active work group members.



BAKER NEAR-WILDERNESS SETTLEMENT

in Baker Park Reserve; Sara Harcey, 763.694.7727, sharcey@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants

*New volunteers: contact Sara for interview and training.

- Camp Hosts*
Scheduled groups, times vary
- Site Events
 - 3D Archery Festival, Sun. Sept. 7, 2-6 PM
 - Progressive Campfire Cookout, Sun. Sept. 21, 2:30-7 PM
 - Valentine's Day Event, Fri. Feb. 13 & Sat. Feb. 14, 4-10 PM
 - Maple Syrup Festival, Sun. Mar. 15, 1:30-6 PM

Project Assistants

- Kitchen work, miscellaneous projects as needed

COON RAPIDS DAM

On the west side of the Mississippi River; Michelle Anderson, 763.694.7793, manderson@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Animal Care Assistants

Weekdays, 2 hours/week (14 years and older), as needed

Program Assistants & Interpreters

Contact Michelle for volunteer needs.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

District-wide; Bill Walker, 763.694.2059, bwalker@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Project Assistants & Specialists

- Historical research as projects occur
- Help create brochures, publications, interpretive signs, etc.

EASTMAN NATURE CENTER

in Elm Creek Park Reserve; Vicky Wachtler, 763.694.7702,
vwachtler@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Natural Resources Monitors

- FeederWatch, November-March, flexible

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Vicky for interview and training.

- Preschool Programs*
Mondays & Thursdays, 10 AM-noon & 1-3 PM
- Public Programs*
 - Apple Cidering, Sun. Sept. 21, 28 & Oct. 5, 1-4 PM
 - Craft Extravaganza, Sat. Dec. 6, 10 AM-3 PM
 - Snowshoeing, Sun. Jan. 18 & Feb. 8, 1-2:30 PM
 - Maple Syruping, Sundays, March, 1-4 PM
- Scout Programs*
 - All Scouts: Astronomy, Sat. Oct. 18, 10 AM-noon & 1-3 PM
 - Girls: Candlemaking, Fri. Nov. 21, 6-8 PM
 - All Scouts: Knot Tying and Survival Bracelets, Sat. Dec. 20, 1-4 PM
 - Webelos: Geology, Tue. Jan. 20, 6-8 PM & Sat. Jan. 24, 10 AM-noon & 1-3 PM
 - All Scouts: Snowshoe Full Moon Hike, Tue. Feb. 3, 6-8 PM
 - Webelos: Forester, Sat. May 2, 10 AM-noon & 1-4 PM
- Site Events
 - Family Fun Day, Sat. Sept. 20, 1-4 PM
 - Big Woods Halloween, Sat. Oct. 25, 10 AM-3 PM
 - Winter Beach Party, Fri. Jan. 30 & Sat. Jan. 31, 10:30 AM-1 PM
 - Maple Syrup Festival, Sat. Mar. 21, 1-4 PM

KROENING INTERPRETIVE CENTER

in North Mississippi Regional Park; Colleen Sweeney,
763.694.7693, csweeney@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Animal Care Assistants

Weekdays, 2 hours/week (14 years and older), as needed*

Natural Resources Monitors

- FeederWatch, November-March, flexible

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Colleen for interview and training referral.

- Public Programs*
Contact Colleen for volunteer needs.
- Site Events
 - Family Fun Days, Sundays, year-round, 1-3 PM
 - River Fest and Heritage Day, Sat. Sept. 13, 12:15-5:15 PM
 - Baker Boo, Sat. Oct. 18, 12:30-4:30 PM, campground
 - Santa in the Holiday Forest, Sat. Dec. 13, 9:30 AM-1:30 PM
 - Winter Solstice Celebration, Sat. Dec. 20, 1:30-5 PM
- School Programs*
Weekdays as needed, school year

GALE WOODS FARM

Andi Anderson, 763.694.2003,
aanderson@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Andi for interview and training.

- Preschool Programs*
Mondays, as scheduled, 9 AM-noon
- Site Events*
 - Saturday Mornings on the Farm, May-September, 9:30 AM-noon
 - Star of The North Shepherding Trial & Festival of Working Animals, Sat. Oct. 4, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM
 - Harvest Hoedown, Sat. Oct. 11, 5-8:30 PM
 - Fall Fun on the Farm, Thu. Oct. 16, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM
 - Winter Sunrise on the Farm, Sat. Jan. 31, 7 AM-12:30 PM
 - Valentine's Day Sleigh Rides, Sat. Feb. 14, 4-10:30 PM
 - Sheep Shearing, date TBD, 10 AM-2 PM
- School Programs*
Tuesdays-Fridays, school year
- Homeschool Programs*
Monday & Tuesdays, noon-4:30 PM, as scheduled

LOWRY NATURE CENTER

in Carver Park Reserve; Kirk Mona, 763.694.7650,
kmona@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Kirk for interview and training.

- Preschool Programs*
Mondays, year-round
- Public Programs*
 - Walk When the Moon Is Full, Wed. Oct. 8, Thu. Nov. 6 & Sat. Dec. 6, 6:30-8 PM
 - Pumpkin Carving, Sat. Oct. 26, 1-3 PM
- School Programs*
Tuesdays-Fridays, school year
- Scout Programs*
 - All Scouts: Maple Syruping, Thu. Mar. 19, 4:30-6 PM
- Site Events
 - Wagon Rides, Sat. Oct. 4, 9 AM-noon
 - Enchanted Forest Halloween, Sat. Oct. 25, 4-9:30 PM
 - Polar Bear Picnic, Sat. Jan. 31, noon-4 PM
 - Valentine's Dinner, Sat. Feb. 14, 6-9 PM
 - Maple Syrup Festival, Sat. Mar. 21, noon-4 PM

Project Assistants

- Maple syrup processing, March, call to arrange

Volunteer Needs



OUTDOOR RECREATION SCHOOL

District-wide; Heather Gordon, 763.694.2052,
hgordon@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Heather for interview and training.

- Archery Programs*
Fall, flexible schedule
- Cross-country Ski Programs*
Winter, flexible schedule, Elm Creek, French and Hyland
- Ice Fishing*
Winter, flexible schedule
- Snowshoeing Programs*
Winter, flexible schedule, district-wide and outreach events
- Races
 - Mountain Bike Races:
 - ◆ The Dirt Cup, Wed. Aug. 20, 5-9 PM, Murphy (Rain date Wed. Aug. 27, location to be determined)
 - ◆ Murphy Menace 40, Sat. Sept. 6, 8:30 AM-2 PM (Sept. 20 rain date)
 - ◆ Nocturnal Mountain Bike Race Series:
 - Elm Creek, Wed. Oct. 8 & 22, 5-8 PM
 - Murphy, Sat. Oct. 18 & Nov. 1, 5-8 PM
 - ◆ The Frozen Frolic Mountain Bike Race Series:
 - Elm Creek, dates & times TBD
 - Murphy, dates & times TBD
 - Running/Walking Events:
 - ◆ Autumn Woods Classic, Sat. Oct. 11, 7 AM-12:30 PM, Elm Creek (763.559.6706, volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
 - ◆ Trail Mix, Sat. Apr. 18, 2015, 5:30 AM-2:30 PM in shifts, Lake Rebecca (763.694.2070, rconser@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
- Scout Programs*
Year-round, flexible schedule
- Site Events
 - Candy Cane Hunt, Sat. Dec. 13, 1-4 PM, Silverwood

Project Assistants

- Maple syrup processing, March, French

RICHARDSON NATURE CENTER

in Hyland Lake Park Reserve; Kimi Aisawa-Romportl,
763.694.7679, kaisawa@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New program volunteers: contact Kimi for interview and training.

- Greeter/Snowshoe Rentals
Weekends, late December-February
- Public Programs*
 - Apple Cidering, Sat. Oct. 4, 11 & 18, 1-4 PM
- Site Events
 - Party in the Prairie, Sat. Sept. 27, 3-9:30 PM
 - Ice Harvest Festival, Sat. Jan. 24, 10 AM-3:30 PM
 - Candlelight & Chocolate, Sat. Feb. 14, 5-9:30 PM
- School Programs*
Weekdays, school year, training TBD

SILVERWOOD PARK

Linda Dobosenski, 763.694.1118,
ldobosenski@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants

*New volunteers: contact Linda for interview and training.

- Public Programs*
 - Get St**ART**ed Sun. Sept. 14, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Jan. 18 & Feb. 15, 1-3 PM
 - Walk with a Naturalist, Sun. Sept. 14, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Jan. 18 & Feb. 15, 1-2 PM
 - Pumpkin Carving, Wed. Oct. 22, 5-7 PM.
 - Tea with Mrs. Claus, Sat. Dec. 6, 1-3 PM
 - Snowman Making Contest, Mon. Jan. 19, 1-3:30 PM
- Site Events
 - Field Trips!, Sat. Sept. 20, 11 AM-5 PM
 - Candy Cane Hunt, Sat. Dec. 13, 1-4 PM
 - Valentine's Day Dinner, Sat. Feb. 14, 6-10 PM

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Natural Resources Series:

Tuesday evenings, 7-9 PM, \$5, free for Three Rivers volunteers
Reservations recommended, ThreeRiversParks.org or 763.559.6700
This series provides information on the various natural resources management activities and programs conducted in the Park District.

- Lakes 101: Sept. 16, Eastman Nature Center
- Terrestrial Invasive Species Monitoring: Oct. 21, Coon Rapids Dam
- Deer Management: Nov. 18, Richardson Nature Center
- Forest Restoration: Dec. 16, Lowry Nature Center
- Dendrology 101: Jan. 20, North Mississippi
- Wildlife Reintroductions: Feb. 17, Eastman Nature Center
- Lakeshore Management: Mar. 17, Baker Near Wilderness Center
- Aquatic Invasive Species: Apr. 21, Lowry Nature Center
- Prairie Management: May 19, Richardson Nature Center

Naturalist & Volunteer Training Events:

Minnesota Naturalists' Association

For details on future events and how to register, visit:

<http://mnnaturalists.org/events/naturalist-training>

- Nothing is scheduled at this time. Check back soon.

THE LANDING-MN RIVER HERITAGE PARK

Richard Williams, 763.694.7786,
rwilliams@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Richard for interview and training.

- Living History Interpretation*
Year-round, flexible schedule
- Musician*
Year-round, flexible schedule
- School Programs*
Weekdays, school year
- Site Events
 - Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 30-Sept. 1, Saturday & Monday, 9 AM-5 PM; Sunday, 11 AM-5 PM
 - Living History Saturdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27 & Oct. 11, 9 AM-5 PM
 - Apfelfest (Apple Fest), Sat. Oct. 4, 9 AM-5 PM & Sun. Oct. 5, 11 AM-5 PM
 - Old Fashioned Trick-or-Treat, Sat. Oct. 18, 3-8 PM
 - Thanksgiving Day Family Fun, Sat. Nov. 22, 9 AM-4 PM
 - Folkways of the Holidays, Dec. 6-21, Saturdays, 9 AM-4 PM & Sundays, 11 AM-4 PM (training: Sat. Nov. 15, 9 AM-noon)
 - Folkways by Candlelight, Fri. Dec. 19, 4-8:30 PM
 - Victorian Valentine's Day, Sat. Feb. 14, 6-9 PM
 - Maple Syrup through History, Sat. Mar. 21, 9 AM-4 PM
 - Victorian Easter Egg Roll, Sat. Apr. 4, 11 AM-3 PM

Project Assistants

- Miscellaneous office work, projects & maintenance needs



Fall/Winter 2014-15



Natural Resources FORESTRY

Angela Isackson, 763.694.7817,
aisackson@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Surveyors

- Invasive Plants (Oriental bittersweet)
Fall/early winter, flexible, Carver, Crow Hassan, Elm Creek and possibly other locations
Identify and map new infestations of targeted plants. Involves hiking on uneven terrain. Use of personal GPS unit or smartphone is encouraged and prior plant identification experience required.

Project Assistants

- Buckthorn Removal
October-November, see poster insert for dates & locations
- Adopt-a-Woodlot
Spring-late fall, ongoing invasive species removal (garlic mustard, buckthorn, etc.) on adopted woodlot.

HORTICULTURE

Arla Carmichiel, 763.694.7845,
acarmichiel@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Project Assistants

- Adopt-a-Garden
Spring-fall, two days/month, several parks
Weed and clean up rain gardens and landscape plantings. A sponsor recognition sign is provided for a two-year commitment.

WILDLIFE

Steven Hogg, 763.694.7848, shogg@threeriversparkdistrict.org;
Madeleine Linck, 763.694.7851, mlinck@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Monitors

- Bluebirds (Madeleine)
April-August, weekly, full season commitment, as openings occur
- Osprey Nests (Steven)
April-August, 2-4 nest checks, full season commitment, metro-wide

Project Assistants & Specialists

- Prairie Seed Collection
August-October, see poster insert for dates & locations
- Independent Seed Collection (Steven)
Advanced skill required

Volunteer Office

12615 County Road 9
Plymouth, MN 55441

Contact Us

Phone: 763.559.6706

Text Telephone: 763.559.6719

E-mail: volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer

Find us on

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/volunteer3riversparks
- Twitter: twitter.com/TRPD_Volunteers
- Blog: trpdvolunteers.wordpress.com

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost

To help reduce consumption of our natural resources, one copy of this publication is being mailed to each household. This publication is also available at www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer.

Big Event Needs

Many volunteers are needed for events throughout the year. Ongoing and one-time volunteers are welcome. For additional details visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer. More site events are listed by work groups/sites on pages 3-7.



AUTUMN WOODS CLASSIC

1K, 5K, 10K run/walk
Sat. Oct. 11, 7 AM-noon (shifts vary),
Elm Creek

- Park Patrol (first aid)
- Program Assistants (registration; finish line; greeting; volunteer check-in; kids' activities; face painting; waste education)

MOUNTAIN BIKE RACES

For dates, see listing on page 7 under Outdoor Recreation School.


- Park Patrol (first aid)
- Program Assistants (course marking; registration; timing; food; set-up/clean-up; course direction; water stops & other tasks)

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

- Program Assistants
 - *Not-So-Scary Trick-or-Treat Event, Sat. Oct. 11, 1:30-5:30 PM, Hyland*
 - *Baker Boo, Sat. Oct. 18, 12:30-4:30 PM, campground*
 - *Old Fashioned Trick-or-Treat, Sat. Oct. 18, 3-8 PM, The Landing*
 - *Pumpkin Carving, Wed. Oct. 22, 5-7 PM, Silverwood*
 - *Big Woods Halloween, Sat. Oct. 25, 10 AM-3 PM, Eastman Nature Center*
 - *Enchanted Forest Halloween, Sat. Oct. 25, 4-9:30 PM, Lowry Nature Center*

VALENTINE'S DAY EVENTS

- Program Assistants
 - *Victorian Valentine's Day, Sat. Feb. 14, 6-9 PM, The Landing*
 - *Valentine's Day Dinner, Sat. Feb. 14, 6-10 PM, Silverwood*
 - *Valentine's Day Event, Fri. Feb. 13 & Sat. Feb. 14, 4-10 PM, Baker*
 - *Valentine's Day Sleigh Rides, Sat. Feb. 14, 4-10:30 PM, Gale Woods*
 - *Valentine's Dinner, Sat. Feb. 14, 6-9 PM, Lowry Nature Center*
 - *Candlelight & Chocolate, Sat. Feb. 14, 5-9:30 PM, Richardson Nature Center*



Three Rivers

PARK DISTRICT

FALL 2014

Service Project Events

MULTIPLE PARK LOCATIONS



PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTION

Saturdays, Aug. 16-Oct. 18, Crow-Hassan

Tuesdays, Aug. 19-Oct. 14, sites vary

Help restore prairie by collecting native wildflower seed. All collections start at 10:30 AM and end at approximately 1:30 PM. Registration is required.

Saturdays:

August 16-October 18, Crow-Hassan

Tuesdays:

Crow-Hassan: Oct. 7 & 14

Elm Creek: Sept. 2 & 16

Murphy: Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 9 & 30

The minimum age for participation is 12. Youth must be accompanied by an adult (1 adult/8 youth 12-14 years). Groups of 10 or more may inquire about arranging a separate seed collection on a different date than listed.

BEAT BACK THE BUCKTHORN

Fri. Oct. 17, Sat. Oct. 18 & Sat. Nov. 1, 9 AM-noon, Tierney's Woods

This invasive species produces a dense shade that prevents the establishment of native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. With no "natural controls" to limit its growth, buckthorn is a threat to the future of native natural habitats. Volunteers are needed to help keep this species at bay! Registration is required.

The minimum age for participation is 8. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Tierney's Woods is located in Hyland/Bush/Anderson Lakes Park Reserve.

ADOPT-A-WOODLOT

Spring-Fall, ongoing, 2-year commitment

Enlist your group in the war against invasive species like garlic mustard, buckthorn, and exotic honeysuckle. Make a difference one small woodlot at a time.

www.ThreeRiversParks.org

For more information or to register,
visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer,
email volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org
or call 763.559.6706

Story continued from front cover.

and a Volunteer Fun Pass each year based on the number of hours served during the year.

The changes in winter recreation offerings over the past 50+ years have been dramatic. [Dawn of a Dream: Hennepin Parks Through Its First 30 Years](#) highlights the history of winter activities in the Park District beginning with the purchase in 1959 of Mt. Normandale Ski Area, now Hyland Ski & Snowboard Area, which began operations in 1964. The publication goes on to say:

But there were no early thoughts of facilities for cross-country skiing. In fact, while cross-country skiing has a long history, it was quite obscure in America until the late 1960s and early 1970s. In the winter of 1970-71, somewhere between 100 and 200 ski tourists showed up in the park reserves. There were no trails, warming houses or other facilities, just skiers.

That same winter a group of park district managers were introduced to ski touring at a manufacturer's seminar on downhill skiing equipment. As a result of this exposure and encouragement from the North Star Ski Touring Club, the Park District found itself in the ski touring business in the winter of 1971-72.

That first year, the Park District offered single-track ski trails cut with a track-setting sled built from a design provided by the North Star Ski Touring Club. Some 5,000 skiers used Park District trails that year.

The following season, 20,000 skiers used the system. Hyland Lake Park Reserve was the site of the January, 1973 National Nordic Ski Championships, giving the Park District staff exposure to double-track ski trails. They were introduced in the system the following season, when 40,000 skiers used Park District trails.

Norm Oakvik of North Minneapolis was one of the key figures in the development of cross-country skiing in the area. From the North Star Ski Touring Club's website:

Growing up, Norm competed in cross country skiing, alpine skiing and ski jumping, and in 1952 Norm was the first alternate on the United States Nordic Combined Olympic Team. In the 1950's and 1960's Mr. Oakvik became a one-man sales team for all things cross country skiing in Minnesota. He coached cross country skiing throughout the area, organized races, constructed ski trails throughout Minnesota, and especially in Theodore Wirth Park, and, because there were no alternatives, he even imported cross country skis from Scandinavia, which he sold out of his living room.

In 1965-66, the United States Ski Association formed a ski touring committee chaired by Norm Oakvik and then Bob Larson for the purpose of improving interest and participation in ski touring in the metro area and throughout the central division of USSA. Membership in that committee, besides Norm and Bob, included Jinny McWethy, John O'Bleness, James Rupert, and Dag Helgestad. A touring handbook was prepared and sent to forty interested parties. A two mile trail was cut near the Bush Lake ski jump...

Ski skating made its way into the sport after Bill Koch won the 1982 World Cup by switching from diagonal stride to skating, something that he observed at a Swedish marathon. Major innovations to trail grooming ensued followed by lighted ski trails and snowmaking which has dramatically changed how skiers looked at the sport and what they came to expect.

Today, thanks to the landmark contributions to the sport in the past and the most recent additions at Hyland, this Minnesota tradition continues.

Donations



INVEST IN YOUR PARK DISTRICT

Tax-deductible contributions benefit our entire community by enhancing green spaces and supporting opportunities for nature education and outdoor recreation.

Gifts can be made to Three Rivers Park District or Three Rivers Park District Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works closely with the Park District. Visit ThreeRiversParks.org or ThreeRiversParksFdn.org to learn more about these and other ways to give:

- ***Give where your financial support is needed most.***

We prioritize philanthropic funding for special initiatives that fall outside the established tax-based budget. Providing an undesignated contribution lets us use your gift immediately to help Three Rivers reach its full potential and better serve our community.

- ***Direct your gift to something meaningful to you.***

Do you frequent a special park, trail or facility? Is there a certain activity you enjoy? Would you like to mark a special occasion or honor a loved one? Whether you want to support a nature center, fund a field trip, or plant a tree, we will gladly work with you to ensure that your dollars are invested in what you value most. Consider these sample designations:

- **Open a child's eyes through the Wonder Fund**

We award mini-grants to allow school groups and individuals with demonstrated financial need to experience our parks and programs. You can fund a memory-packed, curiosity-filled field trip for as little as \$3.50 per student.

- **Support local reforestation through Forests Forever**

Starting at just \$25, you can plant a 6- to 12-foot native tree. Our commemorative tree plantings allow you to help the environment while also marking a special occasion or honoring a loved one.

- ***Want to leave a legacy?***

Make a lasting gift for generations to come by remembering us in your will, estate or trust. Please contact us so we can be of assistance and recognize you now for your future generosity.

- ***Does your employer offer volunteer grants or awards?***

Sometimes known as "Dollars for Doers," many corporations coordinate programs to recognize and encourage employee volunteerism. Corporations typically provide charitable gifts to eligible nonprofit organizations that engage their employees as volunteers to ensure investments made in the community are aligned with employee interests. Your employer's Human Resources Department will know if your company has a program, and Three Rivers Park District staff will be happy to provide any necessary documentation.

Questions?

Call 763.559.9000 or email giving@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org