

Volunteer Updates

Congratulations 2012 Recipients

Distinguished Volunteer Service Award

Bev Anderson

Park Patroller, NRM Monitor,
Program Assistant
Hyland Lake Park Reserve

Betty Magnuson

Program & Project Assistant
Lowry Nature Center

Sarah Reinke

Program Interpreter
The Landing

Jim Rogne

NRM Monitor & Surveyor,
Project & Program Assistant
Natural Resources, Eastman Nature Center

Kathy Smith

Program & Project Assistant
Richardson Nature Center

Terry Spohn

Alpine Ski Patroller, Patrol Program Instructor
Hyland Ski & Snowboard Area, Elm Creek
Winter Recreation Area

The Distinguished Volunteer Service Award is a District-wide award, the highest award the Park District bestows on its volunteers. Recipients are selected based on individual accomplishments and represent the wide diversity of volunteer positions and facilities throughout the Park District.

Recipients will be honored with a reception and ceremony at the April 19 Board meeting (4:30 p.m.). Contact the Volunteer Office at 763.559.6704 if you would like to attend and for further details.

text **"trail"** to 20222
to donate \$10
and help enhance
the trails



Summer campers get outdoors and gain an appreciation for nature while making new friends and memories. Volunteers help education staff make this possible.

Developing a Curiosity for Nature

Growing up in a world filled with Wii, computer games, TV, and other couch-potatoesque activities, it can be difficult for today's youth to pull away from the glaring screens of technology and enjoy the old-fashioned entertainment one can find in the out-of-doors. Especially evident in the summer, a 10 year old may spend the hours equivalent to a full time job parked in front of an Xbox playing Halo instead of enjoying the beautiful Minnesota summer outside and exploring the natural world.

Summer camps at Richardson Nature Center offer a refreshing daily break from technology and create a newfound curiosity for nature within participants. Geared toward youth ages 4-12 years old, camps are either half day or full day depending on the age of participants. Adventures include activities such as nature hikes, fort building, nature study, interactive games, team building, crafts, skits/role playing, climbing wall, nature exploration, tying knots, outdoor life skills, how to maintain a bicycle, mucking in the mud, a trip to The Raptor Center and much more.

Volunteers such as high school sophomore Felicia and 2008 Distinguished Volunteer Service Award recipient Louise help make summer camps meaningful, fun and memorable for participants. Both very enthusiastically light up when talking about their summer camp volunteering and agree summer camps are a lot of fun to volunteer for. Felicia describes her experience as the "best part of [her] summer." Stacey Sigurdson, Interpretive Naturalist at Richardson, notes that summer camp volun-

Story continued on page 10 (insert).

Navigating the System



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

EXPLORE opportunities, meet work group staff members and get started by attending a Park District Volunteer Opportunities Open House. Review this newsletter for current volunteer needs. Call or email the contact person listed to find out more.

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 on a 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 each position and successful completion of training. Certain positions also require a background check.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES OPEN HOUSE

Explore opportunities, meet staff and get started!

Tue. Mar. 6: 6:30-8 p.m., Hyland (Richardson Nature Center)
Sat. Apr. 21: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Baker National (Golf Course)
Tue. Jun. 5: 6:30-8 p.m., French (Visitor Center)
Sat. Jul. 21: 10:30 a.m.-noon, North Mississippi (Kroening Interpretive Center)
Tue. Aug. 28: 6:30-8 p.m., Hyland (Ski & Snowboard Chalet)
Sat. Oct. 13: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Carver (Lowry Nature Center)

SIGN UP TODAY!

Register online! Go to www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer, and click on the Volunteer Opportunities Open House link. You may also call or email Three Rivers Volunteer Resources staff.

CONTACT US

Three Rivers Volunteer Resources Section
E-mail: volunteer@threeriversparkdistrict.org
Main Phone: 763.559.6706 (Text Telephone: 763.559.6719)
- Noreen Buhmann, Volunteer Resources Manager: 763.694.2042
- Deb Vosler, Volunteer Resources Coordinator: 763.559.6704
- Brad Blackett, Volunteer Resources Assistant: 763.694.1104
- Andrea Breitung, Volunteer Resources Secretary: 763.694.7724
Three Rivers information: 763.559.9000, www.ThreeRiversParks.org

Find the position that's right for you. Most positions require an ongoing commitment. Openings vary for each work group/site based on current needs.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

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 by site.
- **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.

Patroller

- **Park Patroller:** Provides information and basic level first aid care to guests year-round at designated facilities, park trails, programs and events. Annual recertification is 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

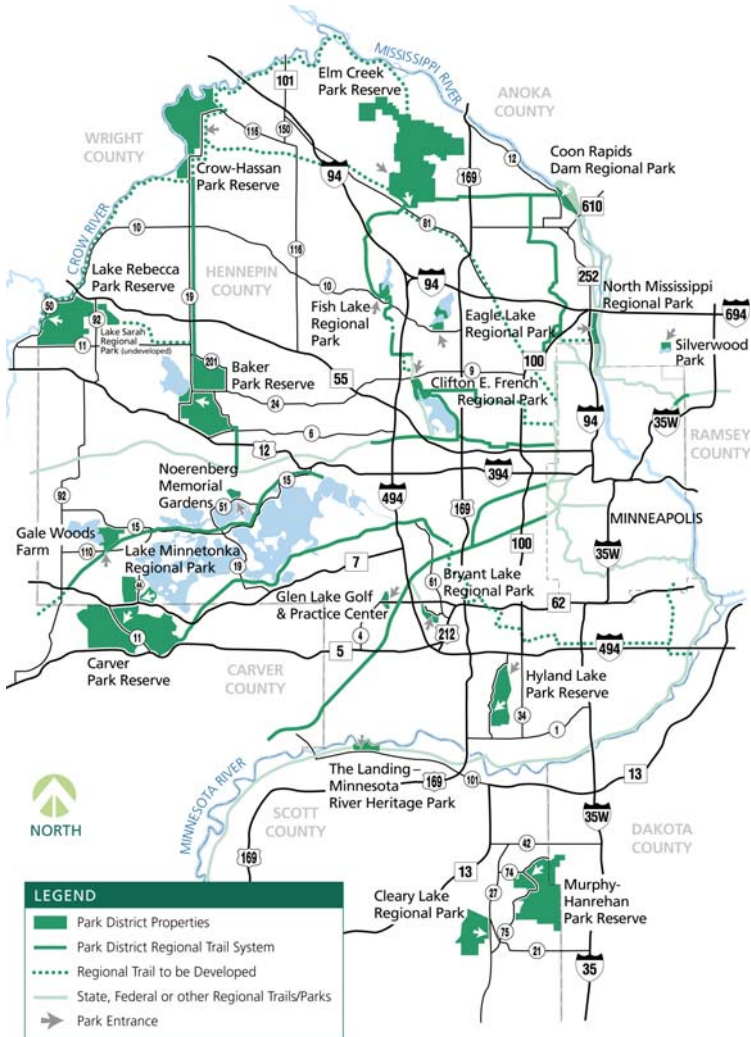
- **Assistant:** Provides customer service assistance at programs, events and facilities.
- **Interpreter:** Provides presentation/teaching assistance at programs and events.

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.

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.**



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 8 million visitors a year.

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-Garden, Adopt-a-Trail, Park Clean-up, Scouting Award Projects, Service Learning, and more.

District-Wide

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. *Horse patrollers must own a horse. Visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer for more information and registration.*
- Required training: starts Sat. Mar. 10

Facilities/Recreation Areas

Park Patrollers

See above

Program Assistants

- Site Events
- Trail Mix, Sat. Apr. 21, 5:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (in shifts), Hyland
(Contact: Amy, 763.694.7690, awilliams@threeriversparkdistrict.org)



Golf

Laura Patrick, 763.694.7671,
lpatrick@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

- Golf Volunteer Sign-up Day
- Tue. May 8, 7 p.m., Eagle Lake Youth Golf Center
- Facilities
April-October, 7 days/week, especially afternoons, Eagle Lake
(Contact: Troy, 763.694.7697, tnygaard@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
May include: assisting with driving range and being a starter.
- Site Events
- The First Tee Charity Open, Mon. Aug. 13, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. (in shifts), Baker National
- The First Tee
May-August, weekdays/weekends, morning & afternoon; Baker National, Eagle Lake Youth Golf Center, & Glen Lake Golf & Practice Center
May include: assisting with events; helping certify participants in The First Tee; league/lesson check-in; staging teaching areas; rule and etiquette instruction; accompanying juniors on the golf course; monitoring lesson area for child safety; mentoring on golf tradition and life values; sharing golf skills with youth; data entry; administrative/office work (letter writing, mailings, etc.). Golf volunteers earn golf privileges.

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
 - Maple Syrup Festival, Sun. Mar. 18, 1:30-6 p.m.
 - Webelos Badge Festival, Sun. Apr. 15, 2-5:30 p.m.
 - Father's Day Event, Sun. Jun. 17, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
 - 3-D Archery Festival, Sun. Sep. 9, 1-6 p.m.
 - Progressive Campfire Cookout, Sun. Sep. 16, 2:30-7 p.m.
 - Tram Rides, Oct. 8 & 18, time TBA

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

Program Assistants & Interpreters

Contact Michelle for volunteer needs.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

FREE Naturalist & Volunteer Training Events

Save the dates only. Check the website closer to date for registration info: <http://mnnaturalists.org/events/training/>

- Bird Banding & Lichens of the N. Woods, Jun. 9, Wolf Ridge ELC, Finland
- Ecosystems, Mon. Jun. 11, MPRB Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden
- Prairie Restoration, Sat. Aug. 25, Wild River State Park, Center City
- Geology, Mon. Sep. 10, Dodge Nature Center, W. St. Paul

CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

Project Specialists

- Historical research
Skills required: previous experience with historical research, comfortable with primary and secondary source materials, writing skills sufficient to record notes and assist with publications.

EASTMAN NATURE CENTER

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

NOTE: Eastman Nature Center is closed for reconstruction and will reopen later this summer. Until then, programming will be in nearby parks.

Natural Resource Monitors

- Bluebirds, April-August
- Dragonflies, May-September

Program Assistants & Interpreters

**New volunteers: contact Vicky for interview and training.*

- Scout Programs*
 - Weather, Sat. Apr. 28, 10 a.m.-noon & 1-3 p.m.
- Site Events
 - St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Sat. Mar. 17, 10 a.m.-noon, Fish Lake
 - Eggstravaganza, Fri. Apr. 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Fish Lake
 - Party in the Park, Mon. Jul. 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
- Summer Camps
 - Nature Explorers, Jun. 12-15; Frog Friends & Turtle Tales, Jun. 19-23; Fairy Camp, Jun. 26-29; Save the Planet, Jul. 10-13; Dinos & Dirt, Jul. 24-27; Pirates & Explorers, Jul. 31-Aug. 3; Adventure Camp, Aug. 7-10; Nature Nuts & Science Sprouts, Aug. 14-17; Insectigations, Aug. 21-24

KROENING INTERPRETIVE CENTER

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

Animal Care Assistants

*Weekdays, 1-2 hours/week (14 years and older), as needed**

Program Assistants & Interpreters

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

- Site Events
 - Family Fun Days, Sundays, year-round, 1-3 p.m.
 - Heron Egg Hunt, Sat. Mar. 31, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Rafting Programs*
*Saturdays in summer (check with site for dates)
Training is required.*
- School Programs*
Weekdays as needed, school year
- Summer Camps*
Weekdays in summer, dates and times vary

GALE WOODS FARM

Andi Anderson, 763.694.2003,
aanderson@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

- Site Events
Open to current Three Rivers volunteers from any location.
 - Sheep Shearing, Sat. Mar. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
 - Farmyard Fun Day, Fri. Mar. 30, Apr. 3, 12, 18 & 25 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
 - Spring Into Farming, Fri. Apr. 6, Sat. Apr. 14 & 28, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- School Programs
Tuesdays-Fridays, school year

LOWRY NATURE CENTER

in Carver Park Reserve; Brett Sieberer, 763.694.7650,
bsieberer@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Natural Resources Monitors

- Bluebirds, April-July
- Monarch Larvae, June-September

Program Assistants & Interpreters

**New volunteers: contact Brett for interview and training.*

- Preschool Programs*
Mondays, year-round
- Public Programs*
 - Moon Walks, Thu. Mar. 8, 7-8:30 p.m.; Sat. May 5, 8-9:30 p.m.; Fri. Aug. 31, 8-9:30 p.m.
 - Grimm Farm Open House Greeter, Saturdays, June-August, 1-4 p.m.
- School Programs*
Weekdays, Tuesday-Friday, school year
- Scout Programs*
 - Boy Scouts: Maple Syruping, Tue. Mar 20, 4:30-6 p.m.
 - Girl Scouts: Maple Syruping, Thu. Mar. 22, 4:30-6 p.m.
- Site Events
 - Maple Syrup Festival, Sat. Mar. 17, 1-3:30 p.m.
 - Spring Egg-stravaganza, Fri. Apr. 6 & Sat. Apr. 7, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Mother's Day Brunch, Sun. May 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
 - Monarch Festival, Sat. Aug. 25, noon-4 p.m.
- Summer Camps*
 - Forts & Hideouts, Jun. 12-14; Princess Camp, Jun. 12-14; American Girls & Dolls, Jun. 19-22; Critter Care Camp, Jun. 25-28; Ninja Camp, Jun. 27-29; Laura Crafts & Cooking, Jul. 10-13; Forts & Hideouts, Jul. 10-12; Daring Camp, Jul. 16-19; Curious Kids Camp, Jul. 18-20; Puppets Camp, Jul. 24-27; Spanish Camp, Jul. 30-Aug. 1; Under Construction, Jul. 30-Aug. 1; Cooking in the Great Outdoors, Aug. 7-10; Laura Adventures, Aug. 7-9; Animal Action Heroes, Aug. 13-16; Archery Camp, Aug. 13-16; Photography Camp, Aug. 27-30; Princess Camp, Aug. 28-30

Project Assistants

- Woodworking projects as needed, call for information
- Maple syrup processing, March, call to arrange
- Butterfly gardening, April-September

Volunteer Needs



OUTDOOR RECREATION SCHOOL

District-wide; Katie Andersen, 763.694.7723,
kandersen@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Katie for interview and training.

- Archery Programs*
Weekdays & weekends
- Canoe/Kayak Programs*
May-October, weekdays & weekends, various parks (ages 18+)
Required training: Sun. May 6, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., French
- Fishing Programs*
Weekdays & weekends
- Public Programs*
 - Maple syruping, March, weekdays, evenings & weekends, French
Training: Fri. Mar. 2, 10-11:30 a.m., French
 - Orienteering Skills Clinic, Sat. Mar. 24, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Hyland
 - Outdoor Adventurers, monthly, first Wednesday, September-May,
10-11:30 a.m., French (adult/child program that encourages them
to enjoy fun recreational activities together. Kids will be ages 3-6.)
 - Outdoor Kids Club, monthly, second Wednesday, September-May,
1-3 p.m., French (drop-off program for ages 4-5 that gets them
moving, playing and learning in the outdoors.)
- Races
 - Trail Mix, Sat. Apr. 21, 5:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (in shifts), Hyland
(763.694.7690, awilliams@threeriversparkdistrict.org)
 - Mountain Bike Races:
 - ◇ Sprints: Tue. Jun. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Elm Creek;
Wed. Aug. 1, 8, 15 & 22, 5-8 p.m., Murphy
 - ◇ Elm Creek 30-30: Sat. Jun. 30, 9-11 a.m.
 - ◇ Murphy Menace 50: Sat. Aug. 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
 - ◇ Night Races: Tue. Oct. 23 & 30, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Elm Creek;
Wed. Oct. 10 & 17, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Murphy
- Regional Trails
As scheduled, greet trail users, provide trail information, promote trail
etiquette/safety and reward good trail behavior at trail facilities, com-
munity events, bike rodeos and on the trail.
- Scout Programs*
As scheduled
- Summer Camps*
 - Extreme Fishing Camp, Jun. 18-22, Jul. 9-13, French
 - Advanced Archery Camp, Jul. 23-26, Elm Creek

Project Assistants

- Maple syrup processing, March, French
- Program photographers

RICHARDSON NATURE CENTER

in Hyland Lake Park Reserve; Stacey Sigurdson, 763.694.7676,
RichardsonNC@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact RNC for interview and training.

- Preschool Programs*
Weekdays, September-June
- Public Programs*
 - Maple Syrup, Sun. Mar. 4, 11 & 25, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Training: Sun. Mar. 4, 1:30-4:30 p.m. (Pre-registration is required.)
- School Programs*
Weekdays, September-June, Training: Thu. Mar. 27, 9:30 a.m.-noon
- Site Events
 - Egg Trail & Rabbit Habits, Fri. Apr. 6 & Sat. Apr. 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
 - Richardson's Grand Green Opening, Sat. Apr. 28, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 - Raptor Release, Sat. May 5, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
 - Beach Party, Wed. Aug. 1, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Bryant Lake
- Summer Camps*
Training: Thu. Jun. 14, 9:30 a.m.-noon. (Pre-registration is required.)
Nature Play (4-5 year olds), Jun. 26-28; Off the Page & Into Nature
(4-5 year olds), Jul. 10-12; Slime & Grime, Jul. 17-18; Treasure
Hunting in Nature, Jul. 19-20; All About Animals, Jul. 24-27; Stink-
bugs, Slugs, & Other Bugs, Jul. 31-Aug. 2; Off-Trail Adventures, Aug.
6-7; Knots & Nature Know-How, Aug. 8-10; Eagles, Owls & Other
Birds of Prey, Aug. 13-17; Splish, Splash, Squish, Aug. 21-23; Nature
Play, Aug. 27-29.

SILVERWOOD PARK

Alyssa Baguss, 763.694.2084,
abaguss@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program Assistants

*New volunteers: contact Alyssa for interview and training.

- Group Programs*
- Public Programs*
 - Gallery Exhibition, ongoing
 - Get StARTed (drop-in art activity), Sun. Mar. 11, Apr. 15, May 20,
Jun. 17, Jul. 15 & Aug. 26, 1-3 p.m.
 - Fiber Dyeing Programs, weekdays, June-September, flexible
- Site Events
 - Egg Hunt, Sat. Mar. 31, 1-4 p.m.
- Summer Camps*
 - Creative in Clay, Jun. 18-21; Photo Camp, Jun. 25-28; Art Smor-
gasbord (paper, print, book), Jul. 9-12; Clay 'n Play Camp, Jul. 16-
19; Photo & Phun Camp, Jul. 16-19; Art Smorgasbord (photo, draw,
clay), Jul. 30-Aug. 2; Camp Doodlebugs: Animal Exploration, Aug.
6-9; Camp Artseed, Aug. 13-16; Creative in Clay, Aug. 13-16.

Project Assistants

- Office assistance, weekdays, year-round, flexible
- Art program material preparation, weekdays, year-round, flexible
- Sewing, year-round, flexible
- Gardening



THE LANDING-MN RIVER HERITAGE PARK

Richard Williams, 763.694.7786,
rwilliams@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Site Orientation

A site orientation is required for all positions and includes a site tour, basic volunteer training and overview of 19th century Minnesota history, volunteer opportunities and requirements.

- Sat. Apr. 21, 9 a.m.-noon (Pre-registration is preferred.)

Program Assistants & Interpreters

*New volunteers: contact Richard for interview and training.

- Living History Interpretation*
Year-round, flexible
- Musician*
Year-round, flexible schedule
- School Programs*
Weekdays, school year
- Site Events
 - Maple Syrup Through History, Sat. Mar. 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
 - Victorian Easter Egg Roll, Sat. Apr. 7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
 - Civil War Saturday, May 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-28, Sat. & Mon. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Living History Saturdays, June-August, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Pa & Ma Day, Sun. Jun. 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Independence Day 1889, Mon. Jul. 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Art Fair, Jul. 28-29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Labor Day Weekend, Sep. 1-3, Sat. & Mon. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Project Assistants

- Miscellaneous project and maintenance needs

Natural Resources

volnrm@threeriversparkdistrict.org

WILDLIFE

District-wide; Steven Hogg, 763.694.7848, Madeleine Linck, 763.694.7851

Monitors & Surveyors

- Bluebirds, April-August, weekly, full season commitment, Gale Woods & as openings occur (Steven or Madeleine), also at nature centers, p. 5
- Purple Martins, May-August, weekly, Baker & Noerenberg (Madeleine)
- Blanding's Turtles, June, 6-10 p.m., Crow-Hassan, Elm Creek & Murphy (Madeleine)
- Softshell Turtles, Jun. 15-Jul. 15, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., French & Noerenberg (Madeleine)
- Frog Call Surveys, April-July, monthly, night-time (dusk-11 p.m.), wetlands, various park locations (Madeleine)
Involves off-trail hiking. Minimum commitment: 3 surveys, 2-3 hours per survey

Prior knowledge and advanced skill level required:

- Breeding Birds, May-June, as needed (Steven)
Must be able to ID all local breeding birds by song & sight.
- Invasive Plants, May-August, flexible, all parks as openings occur (Steven)
Identify & map new infestations of targeted plants. Involves hiking on uneven terrain. Use of personal GPS unit is encouraged.

Project Assistants

- Prairie Seed Collection, Tuesdays & Saturdays, August-October, Crow-Hassan, Murphy & Baker (Steven)
Check website in summer for dates, details and online registration or contact the Volunteer Office. Program Assistants are also needed to help with registration, instructions and organizing participants.

Project Specialists

- Independent seed collection, advanced skill required (Steven)
- Seed cleaning, as needed, Crow-Hassan (Steven)

HORTICULTURE

District-wide; Arla Carmichiel, 763.694.7845

Project Assistants

- Adopt-a-Garden, spring-fall, two work days/month, full growing season commitment preferred, several parks
Weed and clean up rain gardens & landscape plantings. A sponsor recognition sign is provided for a two-year commitment.

Research

District-wide; Jon Nauman, 763.559.6742,
jnauman@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Project Assistants

- Visitor Research/Data Collection
Year-round, flexible schedule averaging one two-hour shift every couple of weeks. Training to be arranged. Document park visitor activity through observation and/or brief surveys at various park locations.

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



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.

New Opportunities

Biggest Needs



Regional Trails

TRAIL AMBASSADORS

This education effort involves assisting and educating trail users so all have a positive, safe experience. Volunteers help trail users find their way, promote “Share the Trail” etiquette, and provide trail and Park District information. To help with this effort, consider one of the following volunteer opportunities:

- Park Patrollers (See listing on page 3 under District-wide)
- Program Assistants – Regional Trails (See listing on page 6 under Outdoor Recreation School)

Events

Many volunteers are needed District-wide. See pages 3-7. Detailed volunteer information for each event is available at www.ThreeRiversParks.org/volunteer.

- St. Patrick’s Day Celebration, Sat. Mar. 17, 10 a.m.-noon, Fish Lake
- Maple Syrup Through History, Sat. Mar. 17, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., The Landing
- Maple Syrup Festival, Sat. Mar. 17, noon-4 p.m., Carver
- Maple Syrup Festival, Sun. Mar. 18, 1:30-6 p.m., Baker
- Heron Egg Hunt, Sat. Mar. 31, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., North Mississippi
- Egg Hunt, Sat. Mar. 31, 1-4 p.m., Silverwood
- Eggstravaganza, Fri. Apr. 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Fish Lake
- Egg Trail & Rabbit Habits!, Fri. Apr. 6 & Sat. Apr. 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Hyland
- Spring Eggstravaganza (Rock Hunt), Fri. Apr. 6 & Sat. Apr. 7, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Carver
- Victorian Egg Roll, Sat. Apr. 7, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., The Landing
- Trail Mix, Sat. Apr. 21, 5:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. in shifts, Hyland
- Celebrate Earth Day, Sun. Apr. 22, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Hyland
- Richardson’s Grand Green Opening, Sat. Apr. 28, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Hyland
- Raptor Release, Sat. May 5, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Hyland



Three Rivers

PARK DISTRICT

SPRING 2012

Service Project Events

MULTIPLE PARK LOCATIONS



GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

WHEN: Fri. Apr. 20 & Sat. Apr. 21

WHO: High school & college-aged youth

WHAT: Environmental service projects

WHERE: Multiple park locations

WHY? Provide youth with opportunities to become leaders of environmental preservation, help prep the parks for summer activities, & assist with seasonal events.

"Youth Changing the World"

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

GARLIC MUSTARD PULLS

WHEN: Sat. May 5, 12 & 19, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

WHO: Everyone ages 8 and older

WHAT: Garlic Mustard Pulls

WHERE: Silverwood

WHY? This aggressive exotic plant grows in dense patches, quickly invades the forest understory, & prevents regeneration of native plant species. Help us preserve our native forests and woodlands by keeping this plant at bay.



www.ThreeRiversParks.org

Story continued from front cover.



Louise Holden

teers add another enthusiastic, positive adult role model. Since they are not really rule enforcers, volunteers often play the role of a companion, friend or "big sister or big brother" to campers.

Volunteers also provide consistency since some give their time to entire camps and become a familiar face to participants. By shrinking the adult-to-camper ratio,

volunteers also provide more adult-to-camper contact which makes camp more special and memorable for participants. Louise mentions that volunteering for summer camps provides a good way to get to know the kids better, as opposed to only having them for one to two hours during a school program. She also enjoys watching the evolving interactions between campers from the first day to the last day.

Louise has helped with summer camps at Richardson on and off for the past 10 years. Living close by, Felicia's mom visited Richardson often during maternity leave; this past summer was Felicia's first summer volunteering with Three Rivers Parks and she looks forward to volunteering with summer camps again in 2012. Getting involved included an interview and one day observing a camp. Richardson also offers trainings throughout the year where volunteers walk through the woods with a naturalist going over nature information such as what is in the pond, where animals live, etc.



Felicia Ceunvorst

Volunteers bring unique skills, perspective, jokes and companionship to participants. With them, summer campers leave with fun memories that last a life time. Memories that are much more fulfilling than a summer blur of sitting in front of the TV.

If you are looking for a fun, rewarding volunteer experience consider helping out with our camps. Richardson Nature Center, Eastman Nature Center, Lowry Nature Center, Kroening Interpretive Center, Silverwood, and the Outdoor Recreation School are all currently recruiting summer camp volunteers. Date information is listed under each site/work group in this newsletter. For more information about each camp, call or email the contact person listed, check out our summer camp brochure or visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org.

Donations

All contributions to Three Rivers will be used for public purposes and are fully tax-deductible as allowable by law.

INVEST IN YOUR PARK DISTRICT



Contributions from people like you benefit our entire community. Donations support natural resources, parks, trails, and activities, as well as provide assistance to those who could otherwise not participate in park programs. Call 763.559.9000 or email Giving@threeriversparkdistrict.org to learn more about these and other ways to give:

- **Give where your financial support is needed most**
We establish priorities for philanthropic funding for special initiatives that fall outside of our established tax-based budget. Providing an undesignated contribution allows us to use your gift immediately to help the Park District reach its full potential, exceed expectations 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? 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 school groups with demonstrated financial need to allow youth 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.
 - Make a difference through The First Tee
The First Tee of Three Rivers Park District combines golf instruction with life skills education. Contributions fund scholarships, equipment and much more.
- **What kind of legacy do you want to leave? Explore Planned Giving Opportunities**
Make a lasting gift that will be enjoyed by generations to come by remembering Three Rivers Park District in your will, estate or trust. Please contact us so we can be of assistance and recognize you now for your future generosity.
- **Do you prefer to give to a 501(c)(3) organization? Choose Three Rivers Park District Foundation**
Three Rivers Park District Foundation is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status that works closely with the Park District. Call 763.559.6707 or email Foundation@threeriversparkdistrict.org.

Employment

Regular and Seasonal Job Openings

Go to www.ThreeRiversParks.org and click on employment.

College Work Study

Contact: Volunteer Resources Manager, Noreen Buhmann, 763.694.2042, nbuhmann@threeriversparkdistrict.org