

Deschutes Land Trust

Volunteer Position: Trail Steward

Trail Steward

Deschutes Land Trust Trail Stewards are volunteers who regularly maintain trails and monitor facilities at Land Trust Preserves. Trail Stewards perform light maintenance involving loppers, rakes and other tools and also report on the condition of Preserve facilities.

Difficulty: Hiking varies depending on the section of trail and the Preserve.

Duties

1. Represent Deschutes Land Trust in a professional, courteous manner that reflects well on the organization.
2. Attend initial training orientation at Preserve.
3. Visit assigned trail a minimum of once/month throughout the year as weather permits.
4. Maintain your trail:
 - a. Maintain designated gravel pathway by raking gravel back onto path as needed.
 - b. Clear small debris, cover holes created by animals, and lop encroaching vegetation.
 - c. Identify invasive plants growing near trail and remove. If willing, work with the Volunteer Program Manager to identify and pull other weeds farther away from trail.
 - d. Pick up trash along your trail and in parking area.
 - e. Leave trash, weed bags, etc in a designated location.
5. Monitor facilities:
 - a. Wipe off interpretive and directional signs and report any damage.
 - b. Check condition of benches; report any needs.
 - c. Check pedestrian bridge condition and report any repair needs.
 - d. Check condition of gravel parking area and surrounding split rail fence; report any needs.
 - e. Check porta-potty conditions and report any cleaning needs to Volunteer Program Manager.
6. Document flora and fauna sightings so the Land Trust can share the natural history of our Preserves.
7. Fill out online Trail Steward Report Form.



Requirements

1. Attend your trail steward orientation (Land Trust staff will work with you to schedule).
2. Carry a small trail steward supply kit, which will be provided to you, including:
 - a. Trail Steward map
 - b. Gloves
 - c. Metal rake
 - d. Garbage bags for weeds, garbage, and dog poop
 - e. First aid kit
 - f. Weeding tool
 - g. Loppers
3. Fill out online Trail Steward Report Form for each visit.

Enforcement and Emergencies

Trail stewards are never to take on law enforcement type responsibilities. In the unlikely event that you run into someone who is causing problems, do not try to handle the problem yourself. Instead:

- Please safely remove yourself from the situation.
- Write down a description of the person or vehicle with any defining characteristics.
- Call the Land Trust office and relate the necessary details: 541-330-0017

Trail Stewards are not trained in CPR and First Aid. Stewards carry first aid kits to provide simple supplies if they injure themselves. Should you encounter an emergency situation and have access to a phone, contact 911. Try to stay with the victim(s) and get as much information as possible and relay that information to the dispatch.

