



Volunteer Position Description: Native Planting

Report To: Regional Natural Resource Steward

Goal of Position: Plant native 'plugs' in targeted areas according to a planting plan on your own or with our crew during the week.

Timeframe: mid-May through mid-June; September

Time Required: Time varies by site, number of plants, and crew participation. Please plan for a minimum of 5 hrs. The limits to how much time you will spend on this project are the number of plugs that need planting and on how much time you want to devote.

Equipment Needed:

- Trowel, shovel, planting bar – provided by DNR if needed
- Gloves, sturdy shoes, and bug repellent – as desired

Position Requirements:

- Know how to plant plugs for maximum survival.
- Plant plugs in specified locations according to planting plan, provided by DNR staff.
- Complete and email all required project paperwork in a timely fashion.
- Ability to work in variable, sometimes adverse site conditions (biting insects, mud, etc.)

Training Required:

- Beginning volunteers must attend a native planting stewardship workday or plant alongside DNR staff to get better acquainted with this project.

How will a volunteer benefit from this position?

Volunteers can take great pride in restoring and preserving important grassland ecosystems like native tallgrass prairie, lakeplain prairie, and oak savanna for future generations. A volunteer will also have the satisfaction of knowing that their contribution is invaluable to the work of the Parks and Recreation Division, Stewardship Unit. Volunteers will assist the DNR in natural resource management and become more familiar with their favorite parks and recreation areas while gaining valuable experience.

How will this help our state parks and recreation areas?

This position will help us re-establish critical grassland habitat for species of greatest conservation need and restore rare ecosystems. This position will allow us to plant plugs and give them the best chance of survival after an immense amount of time and energy has already been spent to collect and clean the seeds and grow the plugs. The Stewardship Unit focuses on restoration in Michigan's unique ecosystems and preservation of our native species. Volunteers can have a big impact on sustaining these natural resources for future generations to enjoy.