



VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

Rare Plant Survey

Information about plant communities is valuable for natural resource planning so the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program (NAP) needs help collecting information about plants in natural areas. Many rare plant populations have yet to be discovered. Volunteers are invited to help discover and catalogue plant species through the 2009 Rare Plant Survey. The Natural Areas Program will be surveying for 10 plant species this year including: sweetflag (*Acorus calamus*), dwarf milkweed (*Asclepias uncialis* ssp. *uncialis*), slimpod Venus' looking-glass (*Triodanis leptocarpa*), prairie gentian (*Eustoma exaltatum* ssp. *russellianum*), pale blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium pallidum*), Ute ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*), forked threeawn (*Aristida basiramea*), Rocky Mountain polypody (*Polypodium saximontanum*), Fendler's lipfern (*Argyrochosma fendleri*) and prairie violet (*Viola pedatifida*). Volunteers will be asked to participate in one or more survey days (20 total days may be offered). Survey dates will occur between April and October 2009 (weekdays and weekends, 9AM-3 PM). Survey volunteers will hike into natural areas with staff to look for rare plants. In many cases surveys will take place in areas that are currently closed to the public. If selected, volunteers must attend a mandatory training on April 18 from 9-12.

Qualifications:

- Background in botany, plant identification, taxonomy, plant ecology or related field.
- Ability to pay attention to detail.
- Physically able to walk a minimum of 5 miles over rough terrain.
- Physically able to continually bend over to place and pick up survey flags.
- Access to internet.
- Must have own transportation.

Responsibilities/ Commitment:

- Must attend training on April 18, 9 AM to noon in Fort Collins.
- Independently communicate with team members.
- Report data to NAP staff
- Represent the Natural Areas Program in a professional manner.

To Apply:

Apply on-line by going to our website, www.fcgov.com/naturalareas and click on "Volunteer Opportunities"

Questions? Contact Susan Schafer, Education and Volunteer Coordinator
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