

City of Fort Collins

Natural Areas

Types of Volunteering
and Outreach



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Agenda

- FC Volunteer
- Volunteer Roles Overview

- Community Programs
- School Field Trips
- Events

- Q&A





FC Volunteer

The City of Fort Collins (FC) Volunteer Program is designed to creatively engage people in their unique talents. Everyone has unique talents, and when those are paired with a passion to help the results can be amazing. With that aim, the City promotes volunteer involvement to improve services and create community.

- City-wide appreciation events
- City-wide project collaborations
- Policies and Procedures
- Enhancing department capacity

Contact: Sue Schafer, sschafer@fcgov.com, (970) 416-4245

Citywide Orientation- Check Engage- monthly, Fort Collins Senior Center
fcgov.com/volunteer



13,885 Volunteer Hours

1,192 Volunteers

Value of \$371,840

Average Tenure- 4 Years

11,157 People Educated

9,531 VRA Contacts

1,555 Plants and Trees

525 Bags of Trash

Volunteer Roles at a Glance

Education

Master Naturalists

Master Naturalist Assistants

Rangers

Volunteer Ranger Assistants

Stewardship

Adopters

Gardeners

One-Day Projects

Community Science

Nature in the City

Rare Plant Surveyors

Visitor Experience Surveyors

Skills Based Volunteers

Natural Areas Fellows

Photographers

Rangers

- Volunteer Ranger Assistants

Purpose: Provide assistance and report data from the trail while increasing capacity for rangers.





Volunteer Ranger Assistants

Requirements: Like working with the public and initiating contact with others. Ability to hike, bike, or horseback ride through trail systems of FCNA and LCNR.

Commitment: 15 hour training, 25 hours of volunteer time within first two years. Schedule patrols on your own schedule.

Timeframe: Class FULL for 2019.
Application re-opens December 2019

Stewardship

- Adopters
- Gardeners
- One-Day Projects
- Stewardship Volunteers

Trash Pickup Safety video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALMS8usT6zU>

Purpose: Provide support to field staff for resource management, visitor amenities, and facility operations.



WHY I VOLUNTEER



"I love how the kids feel a sense of ownership towards **Ross Natural Area**. We pick up trash about once a week. It's a very clean town and **people respect our natural areas!**"
—Kristi MunLeeuw

"Lucky to call Fort Collins home, **just trying to do our part**"
—Steve MunLeeuw

"It's such a nice park. It makes me **feel proud** to keep it clean."
—Wyatt MunLeeuw

"I love how close it is to our house. **We feel good** picking up trash."
—Justin MunLeeuw



**FORT COLLINS
VOLUNTEER**
Find Your Why and adopt a
natural area, park, street or trail
at fcgov.com/volunteer

Adoption and maintenance services are available for projects with a budget.

Adopters

Requirements: Orientation

Commitment: Once a month

Timeframe: Ongoing recruitment

- Saturday, February 2nd – 10:30am-11:30am
- Thursday, February 6th – 4:00pm-5:00 pm
- Thursday, February 6th – 5:30 pm-6:30 pm

Sign up here: fcgov.com/register



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Gardeners



Commitment: Volunteers are needed on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8 am to 11 am (weather dependent) from May to October. Schedule your availability through NAD Staff.

Timeframe: Ongoing, season kickoff in spring (required)



One-Day Projects

Minimal requirements and commitment. Check fcgov.com/register for upcoming projects or to request a project for your group.



Stewardship Volunteers



Commitment: Volunteers are needed on weekday and weekend stewardship projects, comfortable leading groups of one-day volunteers.

Timeframe: Ongoing, training in early 2020

Community Science

- Nature in the City
- Rare Plant Surveyors
- Visitor Experience Surveyors

Purpose: Provide assistance and report data from the trail while increasing capacity for rangers.



Nature in the City

Requirements:
Interest in butterfly and bird
observation or night sky monitoring.
City Nature Challenge

Commitment: Generally on your own
schedule

Timeframe:
TBD



Rare Plant Surveyors



Requirements: Interest in plants,
hiking over terrain

Commitment: Usually during
work week, intermittent
scheduling during growing
season

Timeframe: Every growing
season

Visitor Experience Surveyors



Requirements: Interest in talking to visitors and collecting data, sometimes fielding difficult questions

Commitment: Intermittent schedules, some weekends available

Timeframe: Summer 2019

Skills Based Volunteers

- Natural Areas Fellows
- Photographers

Purpose: Provide assistance and report data from the trail while increasing capacity for rangers.





Natural Areas Fellows

Requirements: Expert in project selected by staff. Examples:

- Writing lesson plans
- Pro Bono Work
- Administrative Research

Commitment: 4 month term

Timeframe: Fall 2019, application opens in July 2019

Photographers



Requirements: Own equipment, able to work on own time and come to events.

Commitment: 1 year

Timeframe: Ongoing

Partners

- Land Conservation & Stewardship Board
- Trail Steward Groups
- Diamond Peaks Mountain Bike Patrol
- Northern Colorado Astronomical Society
- Fort Collins Audubon
- Front Range Community College
- Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
- CSU Warner College of Natural Resources
- Poudre School District



Thank you to these local businesses and groups for volunteering to maintain trails we all enjoy!



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Education

- Master Naturalists
- Master Naturalist Assistants

Purpose: Lead and assist with educational programming for the public, including community programs and school field trips.





Master Naturalist Assistants

Requirements: Interest in becoming a MN or supporting educational goals.

Commitment: 3 day training, 25 hours within first two years of volunteering

Timeframe: May 2020

Master Naturalists



Requirements: Interest in educating the public, ability to volunteer during work week desirable

Commitment: 70 hours of training, plus 50 hours of volunteer service within 2 years of training

Timeframe: Application open until March 22