

# Volunteers-In-Parks



(ver. 12/19)

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## DEWA VIP Position Description

*(Volunteers can assist the National Park Service in many ways, including with visitor center operations, resource management projects, research work, historical and natural history programs, clerical assistance, historic restoration, park maintenance, and more.)*

### Job Title:

- The NPS plan for adaptive recovery best practices follows the Center for Disease Control (CDC), federal and local guidance. In turn, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DEWA) strongly recommends and encourages all volunteers to follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance while we are still in the global COVID-19 pandemic.

### Job Description:

Volunteers will work to perform general trail maintenance, monitoring and reporting on trail conditions. General trail maintenance may include vegetation trimming and trash pick-up. All routine maintenance shall be performed to accepted standards. Contact with park will be made before proceeding with any project that involves rerouting of a section of trail, digging in or disturbance of previously undisturbed soil, or removal of vegetation outside the treadway. Adopted trails to be maintained include:

Walpack Ridge Trail

Pioneer/Hamilton Ridge Trail

Buttermilk Fall Trail

Crater Lake/Hemlock Trail

Orchard Trail

Coppermine/Kaiser Trail

Volunteer will be expected to work both indoors and outdoors. Associated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be worn to mitigate identified hazards. Additionally, safety considerations such as proper hydration, heat-related illnesses, hypothermia, insect/animal bites and stings, and tick-borne illnesses should be discussed as appropriate given the local work environment, season, and geographic location. Types of weather may include hot, humid, wet, windy, and cold. Work may occur across uneven terrain, including hills, slopes, grades, and wetlands, in both forested and open areas. Exposure to long periods of sunlight, precipitation, wind, dust, dirt, insects, irritating or poisonous plants may be present.

**Physical Demands** range from light exertion to physically demanding work depending on the task. In general, tasks involve frequent stooping, lifting, reaching, bending, carrying, and repetitive motion as well as sitting for long periods. Distances walked may exceed several miles per day, often while carrying tools or other heavy equipment, both on and off trail. At times, tasks may require the ability to lift or carry moderate or heavy weight.

### Skills needed/preferred:

Volunteers will be trained by the NY-NJ Trail Conference on proper trail maintenance skills and techniques. All safety rules and regulations will be followed at all times. If any issues are noted that are beyond the capabilities of the trail maintainer, the volunteer will notify the park through the trail maintainer supervisor.

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**Goal/Outcome of job:**

Maintain trails so that they are safe, clear of debris and foliage, and report major issues with trails to the park.

**Benefits to volunteers (note training, if applicable):**

Providing a safe place for hikers to recreate, giving back to the NPS, and interacting with the hiking public. Training is available for a variety of topics from the NY-NJ Trail Conference.

**Number of volunteers needed:**

Multiple

**Age requirement:**

18 +

**Starting date:**

Immediately

**Government Computer Needed to be Used**

(Background check to be initiated by their Supervisor, VIP funds may be available from April – Aug)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_X\_\_\_ No

**Government Vehicle Allowed to be Used**

(Valid DL + Defensive Driving Course needed)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_X\_\_\_ No

**Location of position:** List found above

**Supervisor:** Jennifer Kavanaugh

**Phone/Email:** 570-426-2443

**Other comments:**

**Volunteer Name (printed):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_