



Preserve Monitor Volunteer

Position Description

Purpose of Volunteer Service: To keep watch over a specific natural area and assist with collection of biological information about certain plant or animal species.

Supervisors: Restoration Ecologist, Volunteer Coordinator, Chicago Wilderness monitoring supervisor

Typical Assignment: Monitor the site a minimum of one time monthly by walking the preserve or visiting a specific location within the preserve.

Qualifications/Skills:

- Interest in learning about the natural areas, plants and animals.
- Interest in learning to collect biological data.
- Interest in learning successional restoration concepts.
- Ability to work in outdoor conditions, which may include rain, heat or cold temperatures.
- Ability to interpret maps and aerial photographs.
- Ability to work independently.
- Enjoy interacting with preserve visitors.

Expectations:

- Commitment to walk the site a minimum of once per month.
- Become familiar with the preserve and able to share knowledge obtained with the general public.
- Assist with research of historic land use.
- Become acquainted with adjacent property owners and regular preserve users.
- Attend monitoring workshops, date and location permitting.
- Assist with native plant seed harvest on site.
- Submit reports to the Volunteer Coordinator on a monthly basis.
- Represent the District in a warm and professional manner.
- Provide ideas and suggestions for improvement of the volunteer program and/or your volunteer position.

Training:

Volunteers are required to attend the *Volunteer Orientation* and specific monitoring trainings. Additional educational classes are listed in the quarterly newsletter, *The Forest Focus*, which can be viewed online at www.kaneforest.com. Continuing education sessions specifically for volunteers are offered throughout the year as time permits.

