



Trail Steward Position Description

The Nature Conservancy conserves the lands and waters on which all life depends

Position Title: Camassia Trail Steward

Location: Camassia Natural Area, West Linn, Oregon

Report to: Joe Buttafuoco, Regional Stewardship Manager
Andrea Geiger, Camassia Volunteer Lead Steward

Position Summary: The Camassia Natural Area is a small preserve in West Linn with hiking trails that are popular with visitors, especially during the spring wildflower bloom. The preserve and trails are seasonally wet during the rainy season, so boardwalks and wood chips are used throughout most of the preserve. Trail maintenance is needed throughout the year, including levelling boardwalks, putting down and maintaining wood chips, removing brush encroaching into the trail, etc. The Trail Steward plays an important role in providing needed maintenance to ensure visitors have a safe and enjoyable visit to the preserve. We hope to recruit a volunteer with prior trail maintenance experience. The trail stewards will work closely with the Lead Steward on efforts at the preserve.

Duties:

- 1) Periodically walk trails and identify maintenance needs.
- 2) Cut back branches and vegetation that is encroaching into trails during the growing season.
- 3) Inspect and keep boardwalks level during the rainy season and before the heavy spring visitation season in April.
- 4) Coordinate effort to put down chips along the trails and maintain existing chipped trails.
- 5) Plan out and install water bars and other trail features to improve trail drainage.
- 6) Maintain wooden trail structures, including stairs and bridge.
- 7) Monitor unofficial trails and maintain signage to deter use.
- 7) Send a brief report to the Regional Stewardship Manager and Volunteer Lead Steward when there is any significant action with any of the above duties.
- 8) Develop potential projects for work parties for volunteer stewards and other community volunteers and collaborate with Volunteer Lead Steward and TNC AmeriCorps member to plan out events.
- 9) Quarterly reporting to the Preserve Manager and volunteer department of the hours spent volunteering at the site.

Requirements:

- 1) Ability to work outdoors and in varying weather conditions.
- 2) Ability to work independently with little supervision.
- 3) Experience with trail maintenance work.

- 4) When working alone, willingness to inform another individual of your work schedule and to let that person know when you return home.
- 5) Willingness to work in areas that may include poison oak. The Nature Conservancy will provide suggestions on how to avoid or minimize exposure to poison oak, but we cannot guarantee volunteers will not come into contact with the plant.
- 6) Commitment to the mission of The Nature Conservancy.

Length of service: A minimum of one year is preferred.

Time commitment: Work on trail maintenance for an average of 4 to 8 hours per month. If your schedule changes and you can no longer meet this time commitment, notify us of the change so that we can find another volunteer to take over.

Support Provided: Camassia Trail Steward orientation. Volunteers take a tour of Camassia learning about the ecology, history, and trail maintenance issues of the preserve. Both the Regional Preserve Manager and Lead Steward will be available to answer questions and assist the volunteer, as needed.

Benefits: Learn and experience the ecology of a unique natural area. Work outside and help keep trails at Camassia Natural Area safe and enjoyable for visitors.

Contact orvolunteers@tnc.org to learn more about how to apply.