



# RDCO Volunteer Position Description

**Position Title:** Environmental Steward

**Division:** Parks Services

**Reports To:** Volunteer Coordinator

**Date:**

## Job Purpose/Summary:

An Environmental Steward is interested in getting involved in the work that keeps our parks thriving and beautiful. They will participate in projects that affect positive environmental change and ensure a biodiverse environment within RDCO Regional Parks. Environmental Stewards will participate in various activities from removing weeds to surveying local birds and wildlife. They will have opportunities to participate in specific ecological projects throughout the year. Environmental Stewards believe that the wellness of nature starts close to home and they want parks to be beautiful and thriving for generations to come.

## Principal Accountabilities:

Tasks and roles of the Environmental Steward may change from time to time and as needed. Some of the regularly requested duties will include the following.

1. Communicate regularly with the volunteer coordinator
2. Use of data collection app, keeping records, reporting progress to volunteer coordinator
3. On-going trail maintenance and natural area management as needed
4. Horticulture activities i.e. weed pulling, identifying invasive species, gardening
5. Use of maintenance equipment such as weed whackers, sheers, shovels, rakes, spades etc.
6. Identifying, surveying, counting, reporting of various flora, fauna and wildlife
7. Observe, record, and report any problems or occurrences for Regional Parks staff to follow-up on
8. Positively and diplomatically respond to public inquiries and complaints related to RDCO Parks Services.

## Knowledge, Skills & Experience

### Educational Background Considered:

- Minimum High School student or equivalent
- Parental consent required If under the age of 18
- First Aid Level 1 (preferred)

### Experience and Skills Considered:

- General understanding of gardening and landscape maintenance techniques.
- Using small tools and small equipment.
- Working knowledge in the safe operation of maintenance equipment i.e. weed whacker
- Public relations skills.
- Ability to keep neat and tidy records.
- Physical ability to perform job duties.

### Assets:

- Related educational, vocational or life experience in conservation, environmental studies, horticulture, landscaping, land representative or similar
- Student or member of environmental sciences, ecology, conservation, sustainability or similar programs and groups
- Ability to speak and/or understand a second language
- Understanding of syilx / Okanagan culture and traditions

## Working Conditions:

- **Physical Effort:** light to heavy lifting.
- **Physical Environment:** Majority outside work, exposed to all weather conditions.
- **Mental Stress:** Occasional problem-solving scenarios involving the public.
- **Sensory Attention:** Consistent requirement to be aware of safety when performing maintenance duties and operating equipment. Be watchful for wildlife on park trails.