



RDCO Volunteer Position Description

Position Title: Park Ambassador

Division: Parks Services

Reports To: Volunteer Coordinator

Position Purpose/Summary:

A Park Ambassador volunteer wants to connect with like-minded people, keep the parks beautiful, stay active and interact with park visitors. They are excited to participate in the various programs Regional Parks has to offer and have a strong interest and/or knowledge of nature, biodiversity, education, engaging with different age groups and/or learning about the wildlife, plants, and life cycles of the parks. The Parks Ambassador may be an avid hiker, biker, walker, or park user and feels a strong connection to the RDCO Regional Parks and the community they create. Park Ambassadors will help by connecting visitors to nature, assisting with trail hikes, cleaning up regional parks and beaches, and/or sharing educational resources about the wildlife in each park.

Principal Accountabilities:

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

1. Assist Park Interpreters in the delivery of friendly and enjoyable group hike/walk programs. Follow at the end of groups to ensure safety of all participants by keeping participants together;
2. Regularly participate in scheduled maintenance and clean-ups of park trails and beaches;
3. Maintain program areas and equipment used during programming;
4. Orient visitors to the area and surrounding park;
5. Support various environmental education initiatives;
6. Observe, record, and report any problems or occurrences for Regional Parks staff to follow-up on;
7. Positively and diplomatically respond to public inquiries and complaints related to RDCO Parks Services;
8. Maintain safe use of small tools and equipment as directed by Volunteer Coordinator.

Knowledge, Skills & Experience

Education considered:

- Current High School student, currently attending or graduate of post-secondary, working professional or relevant life experience
- 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 power equipment
- Working knowledge in the safe operation of maintenance equipment i.e. weedwhackers

Assets:

- Related life or vocational experience in leading outdoor trail hikes, outdoor recreation, nature guiding
- Wilderness and remote first aid training
- Member of Outdoor Council of Canada or similar organizations and groups
- Knowledge of Okanagan wildlife, flora and fauna, or a willingness to learn
- Ability to speak and/or understand a second language
- Understanding of sylix / 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 confrontational situations
- **Sensory Attention:** Consistent requirement to be aware of safety when performing maintenance duties and operating equipment. Be watchful for wildlife on park trails