

DESCRIPTIONS OF VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

There are many ways to volunteer. You can dedicate a day or two for events, or volunteer on a regular basis.

Bird Guides

Bird guides are enthusiastic birders who bring visitors on bird sighting walks at either Volo Bog State Natural Area or at the McHenry Dam day use area. The walks are held most weekends and cover 2-3 miles over a variety of habitats.

Bluebird Monitoring

Bluebird monitors are the caretakers of manmade nesting boxes in the Park. Each monitor has specific nesting box(es). At the beginning of nesting season (early March), the boxes are cleared of any remnants of old nests or past occupancy. As the birds build new nests and lay their eggs, the monitors carefully keep track of all eggs and newly hatched young, and register the number of fledged young birds. The boxes are cleaned out once again at the end of the season. Volunteering to monitor the bluebird boxes is a great way to enjoy the Park!

Docents at the Nature Center

Volunteer docents in the Nature Center greet visitors and answer general questions about the park. Docents direct guests to the many brochures and displays and answer the phone. When volunteer docents are available, the Nature Center is open from April through mid-November, Thursdays-Sundays, from 10:00-3:30.

Native Plant Gardens

The native plant gardens are host to an array of lovely plant species that have graced the Illinois prairies for centuries. The gardens are alive with changing colors as the growing season progresses. The volunteer gardeners weed the plots, help visitors identify the plants and answer questions on native gardening in general. They also collect seeds, which are sowed in restoration areas. Want to learn more? The best way to discover these native plants is to work with them. Why not volunteer?

Roving Naturalists

This program may be resurrected within the next year. Roving naturalists walk the trails and engage visitors with their knowledge of the animals, plants and/or geology within the park.