

Volunteer Position Description

GVR Hiking Club

Trail Maintenance

February 28, 2025

In September of 2023, at the recommendation of the US Forest Service, the GVR Hiking Club agreed to adopt the Lower Florida Trail from the trailhead to Andy's Overlook and the Lower Super Trail from the trailhead to Josephine Saddle for trail maintenance purposes.

Duties and Activities

Trail Maintenance volunteers will use a variety of hand tools to remove brush and other vegetation and maintain the tread of these standard Forest Service trails. The volunteers will meet intermittently to perform trail maintenance and will coordinate the projects with the Recreation Area Manager or Trail Manager of the Nogales Ranger District.

Activities may include cutting brush with loppers or small hand saws, leveling trail surfaces using shovels, Pulaski, pick mattock or similar hand tools, removing low hanging limbs and small hazard trees. No power tools or equipment will be used during these activities.

First time trail maintenance volunteers will print the Volunteer Service Agreement from the website, fill in the appropriate information, and bring the form to their first trail maintenance activity. This form may be updated from time to time so volunteers will be notified if an updated form is needed by the Trail Maintenance Chair Person.

Volunteers will self-report volunteer hours. Please see the Wilderness Volunteer Hours in Nogales Ranger District instruction sheet with a link to report volunteer hours.

Safety

Volunteers must practice situational awareness at all times during trail maintenance activities. There is inherent danger when using hand tools in a group setting. Long pants, closed toe shoes, eye protection, and hard hats are required during these activities. Carrying sufficient water and snacks, being aware of expected weather conditions, and knowledge of basic first aid is important. Before starting each maintenance activity, the group leader will provide a short safety talk and to inform the volunteers of any specific known dangers such as reports of hazardous wildlife or recent illegal activities that have occurred in or near the work area.

If any illegal activity is observed, the standard practice is to withdraw from the work area and then notify the appropriate authorities.

Compensation, Materials and Supplies

Unless specifically authorized, volunteers are not reimbursed for any personal expenses related to their service. Most hand tools, eye protection, and hard hats are provided by the GVR Hiking Club.