



Dear Volunteer,

Thank you for signing up to volunteer at the Arboretum!

There are a few things you need to know about Stewardship volunteering at the Arboretum:

1. We are looking for volunteers to become "regulars" which means people who want to and can volunteer at least 1 to 2 times per month, hopefully more. You may come for a few trial sessions to see if you would like to become a part of our regular team. This is because the work that we do requires many sessions of learning and training, which includes plant ID, proper pruning, mulching, weeding, planting etc. If you are interested in more of a casual/once or few times of year volunteer sessions, we will be having weed warrior days advertised as programs coming up in Spring as well as potentially a few other opportunities like litter clean up days, and mulching days.
2. **We no longer host walk-in volunteering.**
3. In addition to the online registration requirement, you must be in communication with one of the lead Stewards below before coming.

For Saturdays: please email Jean and be in correspondence before you come volunteer
jnepiphan@thielkearboretum.org

For Tuesdays: please notify Herb by email at arbeiter@optonline.net

4. **Please come on time - our sessions start at 9am and end at 12pm** - meet at the tool shed in the center of the Arboretum - very easy to find when you walk in.
5. Please park in the pool/playground parking lot.
6. Wear the right clothes/gear for the weather and the site. Year-round, **long pants are required**, and ankles must be covered. No bare skin is safe from poison ivy (we have a lot here) and other hazards. Wear clothes that can get dirty and are a protective; tough material like denim or canvas is best (leggings are not a good idea).
7. There are gloves on site you can use, but they have been used. We recommend having your own work gloves and in winter they need to keep you warm and dry.
8. In winter you need to have insulated muck boots or some sort of warm waterproof boots. As spring draws in, the ground softens and is super mucky –**boots are a must!** In fall too and any time after heavy rains.
9. Sessions may be cancelled due to weather conditions - It important to be in communication with the lead steward the day before you plan on volunteering.
10. Let Herb or Jean know if you have any physical limitations, health concerns, or severe allergies like to bees or poison ivy. Often work is done at a moderate pace and we do lots of bending and kneeling. Feel free to reply to this message with any comments or questions.

Thanks again for signing up and hope to meet you at the Arboretum soon!

Jean Epiphan and Herb Arbeiter
Arboretum Land Manager Tuesday Volunteer Coordinator