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TRAIL STEWARD POSITION DESCRIPTION

Trail stewards are assigned to either Breakneck Ridge, the Appalachian Trail at Bear Mountain or summits in the Catskills. Trail Stewards provide information about hiking and the responsible use of trails. They supply the public with educational information that ensures the safe enjoyable use of hiking trails in the area. Trail Stewards offer outreach and education in reference to the regulations, and traditions of the region. Trail Stewards work to encourage the best behavior on the part of hikers and to facilitate a positive trail experience (particularly for those who are poorly prepared). They discourage and mitigate misuse of the trails and the surrounding lands by performing educational and public-relations functions. Stewards will be on site every Saturday and Sunday and Monday Holiday from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day with the occasional weekend off.

Stewards must be able to work both independently with minimal supervision and cooperatively as a member of a team. Applicants should demonstrate the interest and ability to contribute to the public-service effort of working to promote the responsible use of hiking trails, volunteerism and membership in the Trail Conference. They should possess the required skills listed below and be able to attend required training. Applicants must demonstrate maturity, responsibility, initiative, and self-motivation and be 18 years or older.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Meet and greet the public and educate them about the best practices of hiking and how to be prepared.
- Introduce trail users to the Trail Conference and Leave No Trace hiking methods.
- Advise visitors and hikers of state and local regulations.
- Assist visitors and hikers whenever possible; assist emergency-response agencies when requested.
- Report unsafe conditions, misuse, and abuse of the trails (including vandalism, vagrancy, fires, beer and liquor parties, suspicious persons, vehicles, *etc.*)

Required Skills

- Commitment to Trail-protection and resource-protection efforts
- Proven ability to work alone with minimal supervision
- Excellent communication, diplomacy and education skills
- Ability to interact with the public under stressful conditions
- Extensive hiking experience and the ability to hike steep terrain for several hours
- Current first-aid and CPR certification (Wilderness First-Aid certification is preferable)

Desired Skills

- Knowledge of Leave No Trace principles
- Previous trail volunteer experience
- Knowledge of the Trail Conference and hiking in the New York Metropolitan region
- Familiarity with use of a smartphone
- Capable of utilizing social media to promote the responsible use of trails
- Work with Trail Conference social media team to provide updates and information from the mountain
- Wilderness First-Aid certification
- Preference will be given to bilingual applicants

Application

To apply, please submit the following items via email attachments to jobs@nynjtc.org. Start all attachment filenames with your last name. Your email subject line should be: "Trail Steward Position."

1. Resume
2. Cover letter addressing why you are interested in this position and what skills and attributes you bring.
3. Please indicate Location Preference: Breakneck Ridge, Bear Mountain, or Catskills.

All application materials will be kept confidential. The position is available until filled.
Candidate interviews will begin immediately. No calls please.