



## Join the **Volunteer-in-Park Program** at **Great Smoky Mountains National Park!**

Email your completed application to: **[GRSM Volunteer Office@nps.gov](mailto:GRSM_Volunteer_Office@nps.gov)**

Time Requirement	Location	Project Description
Alternating Saturdays (Fall) 9am – 1:00pm	Parkwide	<p><b>Smokies Service Days:</b> This Volunteer-In-Park initiative offers half-day weekend options for youth and adults who wish to explore and sustain Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Service-learning options include vegetation management, campground clean-up, cemetery maintenance, historic preservation, stream restoration, trail maintenance and litter patrol. Each activity offers an optional enrichment experience (such as a hike, ranger program or site visit), for which participants are credited service hours. Smokies Service Days are a great venue for visitors in the area for a short stay, as well as students/individuals/groups seeking to do stewardship while making new friends and exploring the Park!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Request 'Smokies Service Day' Fall Calendar: <a href="mailto:grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov">grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov</a></p>
Tuesdays May – September 9am – 2:30pm	Abrams Falls Trail (Cades Cove) TN	<p><b>Trails Forever Program:</b> Join a supervised work group to complete specific trail rehabilitation projects through this partnership between Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Friends of the Smokies. Service activities are performed outdoors along park trails. Volunteers hike in a distance along sections with changing elevation. They may be asked to carry tools. Assignments are made according to ability.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:adam_monroe@nps.gov">adam_monroe@nps.gov</a>  <b>**Advance Registration Required**</b></p>
At least one 7 Hour Day (every 6 weeks)	Parkwide	<p><b>Trail Maintenance:</b> The Park has 848 miles of maintained trail. Targeted projects and cyclic upkeep are ongoing. This work is critical to ensure that trails remain accessible for visitors and that resources are protected. Volunteers join the Trails Volunteer Coordinator for scheduled workdays to perform trail maintenance. <b>Required:</b> Volunteers must be able to hike and safely perform strenuous, often difficult manual labor. They should be able to safely hike at least 3 miles, lift heavy objects, and use hand tools such as: shovels, rakes, loppers, and picks. Minimum participant age is 16. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible parent or guardian.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:adam_monroe@nps.gov">adam_monroe@nps.gov</a></p>

<p>At least 4 hikes per year on a designated trail</p> <p>March - October</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Adopt-A-Trail Program:</b> Information that adopters provide is critical to ensuring that our 848 miles of trail remain accessible for visitors and that trail resources are protected. <b>Required:</b> Volunteer should be comfortable hiking in the backcountry. <b>Duties:</b> Commit to hike adopted trails at least 4 times/year to report conditions, blowdowns, and other hazards. Provide hikers with information and promote Leave No Trace (LNT) ethics. Volunteer may perform light trail maintenance work with supervisory approval. <b>Desired:</b> Experience hiking in the Smokies, ability to take photos of blowdowns and other trail issues, ability to send in report &amp; photos via email, knowledge of Leave No Trace ethics.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:adam_monroe@npps.gov">adam_monroe@npps.gov</a></p>
<p>Available year-round, 7 days per week</p> <p>*With 32 hours per week, an RV Site with full hookup may be provided</p>	<p>NC sites including: Oconaluftee Grounds Clingmans Dome Grounds Deep Creek Picnic Area Newfound Gap</p>	<p><b>Maintenance Assistant &amp; Litter Patrol (NC):</b> Volunteer helps maintain and upkeep heavily used sections of the park. Performs basic grounds maintenance in Park facilities. <b>Desired:</b> Motivation to work independently and follow prescribed safety protocol. Knowledge and application of Leave No Trace (LNT) ethics. Ability to effectively communicate positive, encouraging messaging to park visitors about LNT, 'pack-in / pack-out' and wildlife safety practices regarding disposal of waste.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:adam_monroe@nps.gov">adam_monroe@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>Available year-round, 7 days per week</p> <p>*Work out your own self-guided, flexible schedule</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Parkwide Litter Patrol (NC/TN)</b> Volunteers work independently (alone or with partners) to pick up and remove litter along trails, at overlooks, and at busy sites. Litter Patrol Volunteers may focus on a specific trail or section, or perform services while exploring front and backcountry trails, visitor sites, and roads throughout the Park. <b>Desired:</b> Motivation to work independently and follow prescribed safety protocol. Learn and share with others about Leave No Trace (LNT) ethics. Interact with visitors in a respectful manner. When appropriate, inform visitors about the Park's 'pack-in / pack-out' policy and wildlife safety practices regarding disposal of waste.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:sheridan_roberts@nps.gov">sheridan_roberts@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>At least 8 hours per month (March – October)</p> <p>Training is Required. Training sessions are scheduled twice annually.</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Adopt-A-Campsite Program:</b> There are 89 campsites and 15 trail shelters throughout the Smokies backcountry. It is critical to patrol and maintain them regularly. <b>Required:</b> Adopt a Campsite Volunteer should be capable of hiking in backcountry, performing campsite maintenance, enjoying interaction with visitors. This position requires a 1-year commitment, with a minimum 6-12 maintenance trips to your adopted site each year. <b>Duties:</b> Volunteers clean fire-rings, check bear cable systems, check water sources, dismantle illegal fire rings and structures, check signage, pack out gear and trash; submit report after each trip. <b>Desired:</b> Knowledge of the Smokies &amp; commitment to Leave No Trace ethics.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:christine_hoyer@nps.gov">christine_hoyer@nps.gov</a></p>

<p>4 – 8 week commitment 32 hours per week</p> <p>RV Site with full hookup provided</p>	<p>Smokemont Cades Cove Elkmont Big Creek Deep Creek Cataloochee</p>	<p><b>Campground Host:</b> The Campground Host’s primary duty is to assist ranger staff of the assigned campground with operation of the campground and surrounding area in a manner that protects park resources and promotes a safe, enjoyable visitor experience. Campground Host Volunteers live in the park campground, in their own RV or hard-sided camper. Hosts set the example by complying with all park and campground rules / regulations. Hosts keep supervisory staff advised on conditions within the campground including vacancy status, problem visitors, illness or injury to visitors, hazardous conditions, weather conditions, wildlife observations, maintenance and supply needs.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:brian_eversole@nps.gov">brian_eversole@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>3 – 8 week commitment 32 hours per week</p> <p>RV Site with full hookup provided</p>	<p>Parkwide (NC/TN)</p>	<p><b>Roadside Assistant Volunteers:</b> Volunteers work in teams of 2 (married couples are welcome) to provide roadside assistance for park visitors. Prior law enforcement experience may be helpful but is not required. Experience with dispatch communication may be helpful. Teams are trained to recognize hazards to be avoided and passed along to rangers. Roadside Assistant Volunteers live in the park in their own RV. <b>Duties:</b> Pairs drive a courtesy patrol vehicle, identified as 'non-law enforcement vehicle'. Volunteers assist with traffic control, provide minor roadside assistance (fluids, battery jump starts, unlock vehicles); they assist with traffic control associated with wildlife viewing, and they provide visitors with information and directions.</p> <p>For application, email: <a href="mailto:grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov">grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>4 afternoon / evening hours weekly (Spring, Summer, Fall)</p>	<p>Oconaluftee River Trail, Mountain Farm Museum, and wildlife viewing fields along Hwy 441 in NC</p>	<p><b>Oconaluftee Rover :</b> Volunteer must have ability to communicate with the public and stand/walk for 4-hour periods outside. <b>Desired:</b> Personal knowledge of natural and cultural history of the Park. <b>Duties:</b> Volunteers drive and walk in the Oconaluftee Area including Oconaluftee River Trail, Mountain Farm Museum, and wildlife viewing fields along Hwy 441. Volunteers provide information about elk. They also share information regarding park regulations including littering, disturbing wildlife, and approaching wildlife. When elk are present in fields and along roads, Oconaluftee Rovers focus on safety and traffic management.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:david_r_woodcock@nps.gov">david_r_woodcock@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>4 afternoon / evening hours weekly (Spring, Summer, Fall)</p>	<p>Cataloochee Valley (NC)</p>	<p><b>Elk Bugle Corps:</b> Volunteer communicate with the public and stand/walk for 4-hour periods outside, mostly afternoon and evening hours. <b>Desired:</b> Personal knowledge of natural and cultural history of Cataloochee and the Park. <b>Duties:</b> Volunteers are active on foot and in vehicles in Cataloochee Valley, NC. They provide information about elk and share about park regulations including littering, disturbing wildlife, and approaching wildlife. When elk are present in fields and along roads, EBC Volunteers focus on safety and traffic management.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:david_r_woodcock@nps.gov">david_r_woodcock@nps.gov</a></p>

2 – 6 hours weekly	Deep Creek (NC)	<p><b>Deep Creek Resource Patrol:</b> Volunteer Team patrols Deep Creek’s popular trails, waterfall sites, recreation sites. They help Rangers identify/respond to visitor use issues, traffic management incidents, and resource-related crimes. They serve as a supportive professional presence, providing orientation to hikers and other area users. They share practical information and may offer education on park themes, resources, and regulations to visitors. <b>Required:</b> Start and end shifts at Deep Creek Ranger Station. Ability to walk/stand for extended periods. Must be able to hike along uneven steep terrain. Volunteers work outdoors and must be prepared for changing weather conditions. This is a uniformed position.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:james_cox@nps.gov">james_cox@nps.gov</a></p>
4-8 hours weekly	Laurel Falls Trail (TN)	<p><b>Laurel Falls Rover:</b> Volunteers rove one of the Smokie’s most popular trails providing information about regulations including littering, disturbing wildlife, and approaching wildlife. They educate and engage with hundreds of visitors daily. Volunteers walk on steep, uneven terrain for 4-hour periods, and must be prepared for changing weather. In some cases, Volunteers assist with traffic control.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact <a href="mailto:brad_free@nps.gov">brad_free@nps.gov</a></p>
Year-round (work at least one 4 – 6 hour shift weekly)	Elkmont (TN)	<p><b>Elkmont Rover:</b> Volunteers serve as a friendly, informative presence in and around Elkmont’s Historic ‘Daisy Town’ District. They participate in training to learn about the area’s pre-park logging industry and cultural history. <b>Duties:</b> Rovers engage with many visitors in this popular area. They must be able to walk/stand for the duration of a 4 – 6 hr shift. They move through cabins, cemeteries, trails addressing visitor questions. They may adopt a Daisy Town cabin, share information about the restoration program and perform litter patrol.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:brad_free@nps.gov">brad_free@nps.gov</a></p>
Minimum 4 hour shift (weekly)	Mingus Mill	<p><b>Mingus Mill Rover:</b> Volunteers communicate and work with the public. They learn and share about cultural history relating to Mingus Mill and milling in Southern Appalachia. <b>Duties:</b> Greet and orient visitors to park themes, activities and facilities as they relate to Mingus Mill and the historic community. Provide information on types of mills in the region, and mills that can be observed within the Park.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:Rhonda_wise@nps.gov">Rhonda_wise@nps.gov</a></p>
Varies based on program needs (which may be year round or occasional). Work is performed primarily on weekdays.	Parkwide and in neighboring counties (Blount, Knox, Sevier, Cocke)	<p><b>Resource Education Volunteer:</b> Assist the education team with curriculum-based programs in park and classroom. Potential to assist with special programs including Boys &amp; Girls Club field trips and HS Internship Programs. <b>Required:</b> Must be comfortable working with children age 5 and up. Ability to prioritize student and staff safety in decision-making. <b>Desired:</b> Experience working with teachers and students in formal and informal programming. Background check required. *Not recruiting in 2021.</p> <p>For information and to inquire in 2022/23, contact: <a href="mailto:Jessica_snow@nps.gov">Jessica_snow@nps.gov</a></p>

<p>One regular 6 – 7 Hour Day each Week</p>	<p>Oconaluftee (NC) Mountain Farm</p>	<p><b>Cultural Resources Interpreter (NC):</b> Volunteers at Oconaluftee / Mountain Farm communicate and work with the public; while learning and sharing about Park and Southern Appalachian cultural history. <b>Desired:</b> Experience in costumed interpretative demonstrations; extensive knowledge of historical farming practices in Southern Appalachia. <b>Duties:</b> Interpret human history to over 2,000 visitors/day in period clothing or VIP uniform; duties range from opening/closing museum to general house-keeping and feeding livestock; demonstrations include domestic skills, farming blacksmithing, etc. Some training is provided, but competency must be demonstrated.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For more information / registration, contact: Rhonda_wise@nps.gov</p>
<p>One regular 6 – 7 Hour Day each Week</p>	<p>Cades Cove (TN)</p>	<p><b>Cultural Resources Interpreter (TN):</b> Cades Cove is actively seeking a team of individuals to help educate park visitors and fellow volunteers about historic sites and cultural history of the Great Smoky Mountains. Ideal candidate is someone who is knowledgeable about history; Enjoys sharing information and public speaking. Volunteer works independently and with GSMNP's Resource Education Team to research and learn about specific sites, structures and stories in Cades Cove. He or she will work with a park supervisor to develop programs that are dynamic, engaging and informative.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For more information / registration, contact: Jeanine_ference@nps.gov</p>
<p>Bi-monthly Saturdays (Jan – December)</p> <p>4-6 hour shifts</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Water Quality Data Collection:</b> Volunteer collects base flow water quality sampling from select park watersheds along designated routes. <b>Required:</b> Any age individual with ability to hike moderate or long distances (&lt;1 to 15 miles). Participants less than 18 years old must have an adult legal guardian. <b>Duties:</b> This is an ongoing effort to collect water samples from select park streams in order to monitor stream water chemistry. This is one of the longest running monitoring efforts in GRSM, as well as the nation. VIPs will be paired with volunteers from local Trout Unlimited Chapters who train and lead Volunteers during collections. Most collections made on Saturdays, Requiring roughly 4-6 hours.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For more information / registration, contact: caleb_abramson@nps.gov</p>
<p>May – October (morning shift, half day)</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Roving Angler Surveys:</b> Volunteers survey anglers to assess fish catch and harvest rates. <b>Required:</b> Participants must 18 years or older and have a valid state driver's license. This position involves use of a government vehicle which requires a clean driving record and additional driver training. <b>Duties:</b> This is an ongoing effort to supplement the angler surveys conducted by GRSM Law Enforcement Rangers and fisheries staff. The Park will provide a vehicle. Volunteers drive and walk roads/trails along GRSM streams looking for anglers to interview. Anglers are asked a brief series of questions regarding where they're from, how long they have been fishing and what they have caught. Once completed, Volunteer assists the fishery biologist with entry of angler creel survey data into an online GIS database.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For more information / registration, contact caleb_abramson@nps.gov</p>

<p>4-8 hours per week</p>	<p>Sugarlands Visitor Center Gatlinburg Welcome Center Oconaluftee Visitor Center Clingmans Dome</p>	<p><b>Visitor Center Information Assistant:</b> Volunteer will communicate and work with the public. They learn the Park's cultural history, read maps and give directions. <b>Desired:</b> Previous experience working an information desk; knowledge of natural / cultural history of the Park; knowledge of road and trail systems; interest in flora &amp; fauna; ability to stand for most of 4-hour day; lift small packages. <b>Duties:</b> Volunteers provide information to visitors on one-to-one or group basis to facilitate a meaningful visit.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: brad_free@nps.gov (Sugarlands, Gatlinburg Welcome Center) rhonda_wise@nps.gov (Oconaluftee, Clingmans Dome)</p>
<p>Flexible (March through October Visit your study site every other week, for several consecutive weeks.</p>	<p>Purchase Knob (NC) And near Chimneys Picnic Area (TN)</p>	<p><b>Monitor Wildflower Phenology:</b> The park works with volunteers to assist with monitoring timing of plant blooming. Required: Ability to identify some common plant species and other natural history skills; moderate walking short distances over trails or off trail on uneven ground. Duties: VIP visits plots to count number of blooms of different species within established plots. Some opportunity to explore adding new types of phenology to monitor, such as bird and caterpillar activity. To complete all plots at the site takes about 1-2 hours, plus travel to and from Purchase Knob/Chimneys area.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact; paul_super@nps.gov</p>
<p>Spring – Fall Flexible Shift (one visit per week, or every other week during observation season)</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Adopt-a-Phenology-Plot:</b> The Park works with Volunteers who assist with monitoring the timing of tree leaf-out and fall brown-down. <b>Required:</b> Moderate walking over short distances, along trails on uneven terrain. <b>Duties:</b> Visit adopted plots to rate the growth state of 20 trees. Data entry experience helpful. Ideally, Volunteer commits to 1x pr week or every other week for several consecutive weeks.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: beth_bramhall@nps.gov</p>
<p>Seasonal; Hours are negotiable</p>	<p>Sugarlands (TN) Oconaluftee (NC)</p>	<p><b>Native Plants Gardener:</b> Knowledge of plant identification and gardening techniques with native and non-native plants. <b>Desired:</b> Experience with horticulture and/or landscaping, especially with native plants; ability to perform moderate physical labor. <b>Duties:</b> Assist park staff with planting, weeding, and maintenance of native plant garden; may also assist with other landscaping and vegetation projects as interested.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: brad_free@nps.gov (Sugarlands Visitor Center) michael_l_smith@nps.gov (Oconaluftee / Mountain Farm)</p>

<p>Spring – September 1</p> <p>Weds Mornings (6:45am – 2pm)</p>	<p>Cades Cove (TN) Entry areas to include: Orientation Shelter Campground Picnic Area Horse Concession Road Shoulder</p>	<p><b>Cades Cove Crew Vehicle-Free-Days:</b> Uniformed Volunteers work in teams to assist Cades Cove staff with management of roadways and car-parking areas (near entry to Cades Cove Loop Road). They provide safety messaging and help orient visitors. They assist visitors to ensure safe travel from parked vehicles to entry area. Some Volunteers perform data collection and recording using paper datasheets. <b>Required:</b> Ability to walk &amp; stand outdoors during a 4 – 6 hour shift, sometimes in inclement weather. Comfortable talking with visitors. Volunteers wear personal protective gear as directed by Supervision.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:kendra_straub@nps.gov">kendra_straub@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>4 – 6 hour shifts One day per week April – October annually</p>	<p>Parkwide (picnic areas, parking areas, trails, recreation sites)</p>	<p><b>Visitor Use Monitor:</b> Volunteers are present to observe visitor-use patterns in popular sections of the park during the busy season! They collect and record basic data about how visitors use and experience the park. They count parked vehicles, count site visitors, observe and record visitor flow and behavior. Data gathered is submitted to park management via a simple online form. <b>Required:</b> Ability to stand and walk outdoors for duration of shift. Though Volunteer performs observation in high visitation areas, they may not be required to interact directly with park visitors.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:kendra_straub@nps.gov">kendra_straub@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>Seasonal Position Morning or Evening Shift</p>	<p>Park Entry Points: Cherokee (NC) Gatlinburg TN Townsend (TN)</p>	<p><b>Persons-Per-Vehicle Study:</b> Volunteer observations and reporting help management to have a more accurate assessment of how many visitors come to the Smokies. Based near one of 3 entrance areas, Using simple data sheets, Volunteers estimate and record how many people occupy each vehicle as it enters the National Park. This is an observation-only position. No interaction with visitors is required.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:kendra_straub@nps.gov">kendra_straub@nps.gov</a></p>
<p>4 – 7 shifts per month, during business hours; Monday - Friday</p>	<p>Park Headquarters Gatlinburg, TN</p>	<p><b>Volunteer Program Assistant:</b> Volunteer works with the Parkwide Volunteer Coordinator to guide an streamline management of GRSM’s Volunteer-In-Park Program. Duties include but are not limited to: communications by email and phone, data entry, filing, event planning, creating educational presentations / powerpoints /info-sheets, assist with Artist-In-Resident Program, designing materials for outreach events, uniform and supplies inventory, end of year reporting. Most work takes place in an indoor office setting. But for the right candidate, leadership of outdoor volunteer activities is an option. Public speaking experience is helpful. A federal background check (paid for by the park) is required for this position, as it involves use of government computer systems.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:sheridan_roberts@nps.gov">sheridan_roberts@nps.gov</a></p>

<p>May - September Morning &amp; Afternoon Shifts available</p>	<p>Cades Cove Loop Rd (TN)</p>	<p><b>Cades Cove Bike Patrol:</b> Volunteers rove the 11-mile Cades Cove Loop Road on bicycle. They provide guidance and friendly support for pedestrians, drivers and other cyclists. Volunteers inform visitors about safety regulations and share information about Cades Cove. They perform traffic management along the Loop Road, Laurel Creek Road and the Campground Drive. They are in communication with Park Rangers and provide support as needed in emergency situations. <b>Required:</b> Volunteers use their own bikes and are required to wear uniform / helmet. They must be at least 18 years of age.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: dan_wilson@nps.gov</p>
<p>Spring (April – May) 1 shift pr week during wildflower season</p>	<p>White Oak Sinks (TN)</p>	<p><b>WhiteOak Sinks Rover:</b> During wildflower season, WhiteOak Sinks is a 'sweet spot'! Informed and friendly Volunteers are on-site to educate hikers, photographers and flower enthusiasts. They encourage visitors to protect special resources of this fragile area by staying on established trails (to not cause soil compaction or trample plants). They provide site orientation for visitors and assist with identification of plants. <b>Required:</b> Must be able to hike approximately 9 miles on uneven, steep terrain. Volunteers are outdoors and must be prepared for changeable weather conditions</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: kendra_straub@nps.gov</p>
<p>Two 8-hour workdays total, or several shorter workdays</p>	<p>Park Headquarters</p>	<p><b>Record Filing (Cultural Resources):</b> Assist with short term projects involving filing of archeology site forms. <b>Duties:</b> Volunteer sorts paper records into existing file folders in filing cabinets or prepare new file folders for use. No computer access is needed. <b>Required:</b> Ability to work in normal office conditions and potentially cramped spaces is necessary. Volunteer must also be able to bend over to reach low filing cabinets and lift up to 20 pounds.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: Allison_Harvey@nps.gov</p>
<p>Flexible/ intermittent</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Discover Life in America (All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory):</b> Contribute to the largest "science project" in the Smokies. Gain new job skills / maintain existing job skills; network with park personnel, local business owners and scientists from across the country. <b>Duties:</b> VIPs work in 5 areas: Fieldwork; Clerical; Education/Outreach; Special Events/Fundraising; and/or Computer/Technical.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:todd@dlia.org">todd@dlia.org</a> DLIA website: <a href="http://www.dlia.org/volunteer-job-descriptions">http://www.dlia.org/volunteer-job-descriptions</a></p>





## Volunteer GROUP Projects at Great Smoky Mountains National Park

\*These projects are available to volunteer groups. They are based on current need and may be weather dependent.

\*Groups may book a hotel in the service area. Or, to reserve an in-park campsite (no shower) go to: [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

Time Requirement	Location	Project Need	Lodging
<p>Group or individual visits adopted site as regularly as possible, removing litter each time. Site visit may require 1 – 3 hours.</p>	<p>Overlooks and official pull-offs throughout the park (NC/TN)</p>	<p><b>Adopt-An-Overlook:</b> This litter collection program engages community groups and visitors to the area. Volunteers adopt one or more scenic overlooks, which they clean regularly (removing litter at least 4 times yearly). This stewardship option is great for families &amp; groups. All ages welcome but youth Volunteers (under 18) must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Participants should be able to stand / walk on uneven terrain and carry light loads.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov">grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov</a></p>	<p>Stay in area, or book through the website.</p>
<p>Need varies through the year. Projects typically take 3 – 5 hours.</p> <p>Campground opening and closing periods: Feb – April &amp; Sept - Dec</p>	<p>Campgrounds and Picnic Areas</p>	<p><b>Campground Clean-Up:</b> Volunteers assist staff with seasonal opening and closing activities; or mid-season upkeep. They may rake, blow leaves, clear fire rings, collect litter or do other grounds-work. Volunteers should be physically fit / agile. Have ability to walk safely on uneven terrain. Some may be asked to carry lightweight to 50lb loads. They work with outdoor tools (shovel, rake, ash bucket). Ages 16 and up. Must be able to follow supervisory directives and safety protocol.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:adam_monroe@nps.gov">adam_monroe@nps.gov</a></p>	<p>40 hour per person/week minimum to qualify for an in-park group campsite</p>
<p>Available year-round</p>	<p>Parkwide</p>	<p><b>Group Litter Patrol:</b> Volunteers help maintain ecological health &amp; natural beauty of the Park. Ideal for those interested in offering critical support while exploring and enjoying the Smokies. This project is great for families &amp; groups. Youth Volunteers (unde 18) must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Participants should be able to walk along uneven terrain and carry light loads.</p> <p>For information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov">grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov</a></p>	<p>40 hour per person/week minimum to qualify for an in-park group campsite</p>
<p>5 – 8 hour minimum</p> <p>40 hours/person minimum to qualify for a group campsite</p>	<p>Parkwide; some areas require hike-in</p>	<p><b>Exotic Vegetation Control:</b> Volunteers identify target plant species (with instruction). They manually remove various exotic plant species including Garlic Mustard, Japanese Honeysuckle, Privet and English Ivy. Methods include hand pulling and use of loppers and clippers. <b>Required:</b> Volunteers must be 12 years or older. Able to walk on uneven and/or steep terrain, and follow safety guidelines, particularly those involving poison ivy, stinging insects and snakes.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:kristine_johnson@nps.gov">kristine_johnson@nps.gov</a></p>	<p>40 hour per person/week minimum to qualify for an in-park group campsite</p>

Time Requirements	Location	Project Need	Lodging
7-hour minimum (winter months only)	Various Locations	<p><b>Fence Removal:</b> Volunteers use hand tools to remove unneeded barbwire fencing that detracts from the historical scene, impedes the natural flow of wildlife through the valley, and interferes with personnel and equipment transport/operations during prescribed burning operations. Volunteers wear long pants, long sleeves, sun protection, and must be able to handle small rolls of barbwire. Leather gloves will be provided.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov">grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov</a></p>	none
At least one 5.5 hour workday  May – Oct	Abrams Falls, TN	<p><b>Trails Forever Project:</b> Volunteer Groups must reserve well ahead and commit to at least one 8 hour workday. Participants must be able to hike at least 4 miles, use hand tools (shovels, fire rakes, pulaskis, sledgehammers) and provide personal gear for the day (water, food, rain gear, appropriate clothing, boots). <b>Duties:</b> Volunteers perform a range of trail maintenance and trail re-construction while working alongside a Park Trail Crew. Projects include but are not limited to installing drainage structures, rehabilitating trail surfaces, constructing staircases, and pruning and transplanting vegetation.</p> <p>For more information / registration, contact: <a href="mailto:adam_monroe@nps.gov">adam_monroe@nps.gov</a> **Advance Registration Required**</p>	A group campsite may be provided; no shower or other lodging is available
2-hour minimum, year round	Parkwide	<p><b>Scenic Overlooks &amp; Picnic Area Clean-Up:</b> Volunteers should have ability to walk over uneven terrain (some steep) and carry light loads. Work can be accomplished by young volunteers (ages 8 and up) who work alongside their parent or a responsible adult.</p> <p>To schedule a workday, email: <a href="mailto:grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov">grsm_volunteer_office@nps.gov</a></p>	none

- **Volunteers-in-Park (VIPs) help meet important needs at Great Smoky Mountains NP. Volunteers are asked to offer firm commitment to their project. Each VIP must complete a Volunteer Agreement Packet and receive supervisory confirmation before beginning active service at GSMNP.**
- **For information regarding any position listed which does not show a contact name, please direct inquiries to: [grsm\\_volunteer-office@nps.gov](mailto:grsm_volunteer-office@nps.gov)**

**Note to prospective Volunteers (Individuals & Groups): (1) Select a project suitable to you or your age, skills, abilities; (2) Submit completed Volunteer Forms; 3) Arrive to your assigned site on time and prepared for work (bring appropriate clothing / footwear, food & water and any necessary personal items).**