



ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB'S TRAILHEAD STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Mission:

Adirondack Mountain Club's Trailhead Stewardship Program is dedicated to educating and instilling an outdoor ethic in New York State recreationists through frontcountry outreach.

Who is a Trailhead Steward

An ADK Trailhead Steward must be at least 21 years of age and a current member of the Adirondack Mountain Club. They will act as an onsite ambassador for ADK and share who ADK is with the public, encouraging membership and involvement. Must be comfortable working in a fast paced, stressful environment sometimes in extreme weather conditions. Should have thorough knowledge of ADK & its facilities, common hiking trails, NYSDEC regulations and Leave No Trace principles for outdoor ethics. A Trailhead Steward is a dedicated volunteer professional who enjoys engaging with the public to share their knowledge and assist visitors in having a safe and enjoyable outdoor experience.

Time Frame

2022 Dates:

Spring

___ Friday 5/20 – Monday 5/23

(Victoria Day Weekend)

___ Friday 5/27 – Monday 5/30

(Memorial Day Weekend)

___ Friday 6/3 – Sunday 6/5

___ Friday 6/10 – Sunday 6/12

___ Friday 6/17 - Sunday 6/19

___ Friday 6/24 – Sunday 6/26

Summer

___ Sunday 6/26 – Sunday 7/3

___ Sunday 7/3 – Sunday 7/10

(4th of July Week)

___ Sunday 7/10 – Sunday 7/17

___ Sunday 7/17 – Saturday 7/23 (LP Ironman on Sunday 7/24)

___ Saturday 7/23 – Sunday 7/31 (LP Ironman on Sunday 7/24)

___ Sunday 7/31 – Sunday 8/7

___ Sunday 8/7 – Sunday 8/14

- ___ Sunday 8/14 – Sunday 8/21
- ___ Sunday 8/21 – Sunday 8/28
- ___ Sunday 8/28 – Monday 9/5 (Labor Day Weekend)

Fall

- ___ Friday 9/9 – Sunday 9/11
- ___ Friday 9/16 – Sunday 9/18
- ___ Friday 9/23 – Sunday 9/25
- ___ Friday 9/30 – Sunday 10/2
- ___ Friday 10/7 – Monday 10/10 (Indigenous Peoples Day Weekend)
- ___ Friday 10/14 – Sunday 10/16

Volunteer Benefits

Similar to the Campground Host Program volunteers will receive a free campsite for two people with a platform tent (the site next to the Campground host site), three free meals per day for two people. Free time in the afternoons/evenings to hike and enjoy the area. Staff discounts of 25% off all merchandise at HPIC and Hungry Hiker.

Duties will include:

- Assist in the parking lots by directing cars, checking spaces and parking passes, and providing information and directions to visitors.
- Provide alternate hike options and trailhead suggestions when our parking lots are full.
- Encourage all visitors to stop inside the High Peaks Information Center before they enter the backcountry.
- Spread ADK's mission by providing information about ADK as an organization, facilities, and membership and encouraging involvement.
- Engage with visitors meaningfully about Leave No Trace principles for outdoor ethics and local rules and regulations enforced by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Help us in collecting visitor data to better understand usage trends.
- Other occasional responsibilities include removing cobwebs from exterior of building, trash pickups to ensure a pristine experience and writing parking tickets for visitors who do not have a valid pass.

Hours required on a daily basis will be 6:30am – 12:30pm weekdays, with weekend hours being 6:00am-12:00pm. Cold breakfast or leftovers can be eaten in the staff dining room before the shift or a breakfast break for a hot breakfast can be provided between 7 and 8:30am depending on how busy it is or whether the parking lots have filled yet. Afternoons and evenings will be free time for the volunteer.

*This volunteer opportunity is very physically demanding. You will be on your feet the entire time and walking 2-3 miles a day in the HPIC Parking Lots. It is a very intense and fast paced environment. Please make sure you are prepared for extreme weather conditions which may include: snow, pouring rain, extreme heat and extreme cold.

Arrival/Departure:

Upon arrival (Sunday afternoon after 2pm) stewards will meet with the HPIC manager or Assistant Manager to review meals, tent accommodations, and property rules. They will then meet with the staff members at the Information Center to review duties.

Please make sure to leave the Trailhead Steward site clean when you leave. Please check out with HPIC staff after your last shift. This will allow us to do a quick debrief and offer you your first opportunity for feedback.

Training:

There will be a mandatory training for volunteers virtually over Zoom on April 16th from 9am-12pm. There is the potential for a second training later on for folks whose weeks/weekends aren't until later in the season. Stay tuned.

Stewards will work with a staff member/Steward Coordinator on day 1 to learn the day to day procedures of parking policies, educating visitors and HPIC operations. Steward will work independently day 2 and through the rest of the week with continued communication with HPIC staff. HPIC managers/Steward Coordinator will oversee volunteer throughout the week and provide additional training if needed.

How Do I Become A Trailhead Steward?

You can become a trailhead steward by contacting Bobby Clark, HPIC Manager, at 518-523-3480 ext 122 or email bclark@adk.org to request an application. Applications will be accepted until February 14th.