



Teen Volunteer Program

Dear Prospective Teen Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in our Teen Volunteer Program. Your commitment to volunteering contributes to the success of programs at the nature center and touches the lives of many people throughout the Pikes Peak Region. I hope that you will also benefit from the learning that takes place through the **application and interview** process as well as having an enjoyable and productive experience contributing to your community and the environment.

Attached is a copy of the Teen Volunteer Application form. There are several options to choose from. Please look at the volunteer descriptions and select those you are interested in. Most of the opportunities have specific commitments (i.e. a week-long nature camp, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.). Some of the volunteer positions work directly with staff, while on others you may be required to work on your own or with another volunteer.

Please complete and return your application to Bear Creek Nature Center as soon as possible. Some options have limited positions available and will fill up quickly so send in your application today. I will set up an interview with you to determine where your skills and abilities best fit our needs. You may use this volunteer experience to fulfill community service hours for school and honor societies.

If you have any questions or need an extra application for a friend or family member, please call me at 520-6388 or send an e-mail to maryjolewis@elpasoco.com.

We hope that you will enjoy volunteering at Bear Creek Nature Center.

Best,

Mary Jo Lewis

Mary Jo Lewis
Nature Center Supervisor

Bear Creek Nature Center 245 Bear Creek Road Colorado Springs, CO 80906

719-520-6745

Bear Creek Nature Center Teen Volunteer Application

Return application to:

Teen Volunteer Program
Bear Creek Nature Center
245 Bear Creek Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Questions? Call Mary Jo Lewis at 719-520-6388.

Name _____ Date: _____

Home Address _____ Home Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____ Current age: ____ Sex: M ____ F ____

Date of Birth: Month _____ / Day _____ / Year _____ Grade completed at end of school year _____

How did you or your parents hear about this volunteer program? School ____ Newspaper ____ TV ____ Radio ____
Friend ____ Website ____ Nature Center ____ Other _____

Parent or Guardian Must Complete This Medical & Emergency Information:

In case of emergency notify:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address (if different from above) _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Other emergency contacts (include name, relationship and phone): _____

Please indicate any physical concerns you have about your child's participation such as allergies, limitations, etc.: _____

In case of emergency, I understand and agree that every effort will be made to notify my emergency contacts. In the event that they cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to park staff to secure treatment for my child. I consent to emergency transportation, if necessary.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Informed Consent and Release

I, _____, offer to volunteer my services to the El Paso County Department of Parks and Leisure Services. I understand that I will not be paid in any way and that this agreement can be canceled at any time by the Department or by me.

I understand that El Paso County does not provide any medical coverage for me as a volunteer. I understand that I should obtain my own separate medical insurance.

I release El Paso County and the Department of Parks and Leisure Services, its employees, agents, leaders, instructors, and volunteers from any liability for loss or injury to my person or property which might occur due to negligence or other acts or omissions. This release applies to any losses or injuries which may occur as a result of, or during my participation in, volunteer service.

The County may use my photograph for any official Department publications and/or productions. I realize that this release is a binding contract. I have read and do understand it. I knowingly and voluntarily sign below.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian if Volunteer is a Minor

Relationship

Application is continued on other side.

The following is a list of our Teen Volunteer positions. Check the ones of greatest interest and mark with a 1st, 2nd & 3rd choice.

- **Nature Camp Aide**

___ Spring Break Camp: (March 26-30) Work with nature center staff during a week-long nature camp for children entering 1st-5th grades. Teen Aides assist with all aspects of camp (i.e. crafts, games, hikes, supervision) and need to be available from 8:30 a.m. –3:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

___ Summer Camps: (circle preferred dates) June 4-8, June 18-22, July 23-27

Half Day Camp (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) July 31-August 4

Middle School Evening Camp (6:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.) July 9-13

- **Special Event Aide**

___ March 24: Middle School GPS Egg Hunt

___ March 31: Chocolate Bunny Egg Hunt

___ November 3: Bear Fun Run & Walk

___ December 7: Bear Creek by Candlelight

Please answer the following questions: Attach additional pages if needed. Teens must complete the following in his or her own handwriting. Use the back if necessary.

1. Have you volunteered at Bear Creek Nature Center before? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, what new opportunities are you looking forward to? _____

2. Why do you want to volunteer with Bear Creek Nature Center? _____

3. Name/list two strengths that you have that you feel would be a benefit to the position you are applying for: _____

4. List at least two interests, hobbies, or activities that you enjoy: _____

5. What attracts you to Bear Creek Nature Center? _____

6. What new skills do you hope to acquire? _____

7. What personal traits do you have that will help you succeed as a volunteer with the summer programs in which you are interested? _____

8. Explain two or more things you do on a regular basis to help other people in your family, school or community. _____

9. Please share two other things about yourself. _____
