

Why Volunteer?

Whether it's volunteering at Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad, creating gift bags for an upcoming exhibit or working on the many beautiful flowerbeds throughout the Genesee County Parks, there are a variety of volunteer opportunities awaiting you!

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad



Volunteer opportunities at Crossroads Village include:

- Crafting
- Gardening
- Greeter
- Interpretation
- Retail
- Railroad Crossing Guard

The annual Ladies' Night Out is held at the Village in November. Come volunteer and enjoy a sneak peek at all the sights and sounds of the glorious holiday season! Holiday Magic transforms Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad into a quaint Victorian Village. On designated days, The Village features a Country tea.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Have a "Green Thumb" or just like working outside? We have many opportunities available throughout our county parks. For-Mar volunteers might assist a group of school



children as they take a nature walk...or see a rabbit for the very first time! Volunteer opportunities at For-Mar include:

- Adopt-A-Gardeners
- Artists
- Bluebirds
- Greeter
- Historian
- Invasive Investigators
- Photographers
- Program Assistants
- Trail Walkers

Adopt-A-Park

If your school, club or business have a volunteer hour requirement, or if your family and friends just like getting out and doing things together, there is no place like the



Genesee County Parks. Not only does our Adopt-A-Park program help make our park system more inviting to our guests; at the end of the day, you can take pride in a job well done!

Other Volunteer Opportunities

If you love children we have several unique and fun opportunities for you! Come join us when Thomas the Train rolls into Crossroads Village, or join us for gentle frights when we celebrate Halloween with our annual Ghosts and Goodies program.



Are you most at home near the water? Why not volunteer at the Annual Kid's Fishing Derby. It's a great way to fulfill your aquatic needs and at the same time help realize the dream of a kid who has never held a fishing pole. Perhaps you are looking for that "one of a kind" volunteer experience...if so, our annual Odor Eaters Rotten Sneaker contest is an adventure that you won't want to miss!

As a member of the Genesee County Parks volunteer team, you will join an organization that has established an outstanding reputation for customer service.

Volunteer Today

A volunteer application can be downloaded at geneseecountyparks.org or pick one up at Genesee County Park Administration Offices, 5045 Stanley Road, Flint, MI 48506.

For more information please call Cindy Kimber, Volunteer Coordinator at 810.736.7100, ext. 855 or email: ckimber@gcparks.org.

Benefits of Volunteering

Everyone who volunteers has a different reason for offering his or her time and unique talents. Below are a few reasons why you may want to join our volunteer team.

- ? To meet people and make new friends
- ? To have fun
- ? To feel needed and appreciated.
- ? To be of service to others
- ? To share your talents and knowledge with others
- ? To feel a part of your community.
- ? To continue a connection after retirement
- ? To learn new skills
- ? To serve in a leadership role
- ? To explore possible career opportunities
- ? To gain satisfaction from your accomplishment
- ? For a creative and productive use of leisure time
- ? Invitation to volunteer recognition dinner



Tax Deductions allowed for Volunteers

The IRS will allow volunteers at non-profit organizations to deduct some expenses from their taxable income. These include:

Car and Transportation expenses incurred to get back and forth from home to volunteer location. Volunteers who drive can choose between deducting actual gas and oil used, or take a mileage deduction at the rate of approximately 14 cents per mile (as determined by the IRS).

Travel expenses such as airfare and other transport, accommodations and meals when performing services away from home. However, there are important limitations on these expenses.

The purchase price and any upkeep costs of **uniforms** may be deducted. However, the uniform must not be suitable for everyday use and a volunteer must be required to wear the uniform while performing services.

Volunteers may deduct **unreimbursed expenses** they incur during the course of their volunteer work. For example, phone, postage, and copying charges directly associated with volunteering may be deducted.

Because there may be limitations on some of these deductions, it is important to talk to a tax professional before filing your tax return.

GENESEEE  COUNTY PARKS
Get away. Right away.

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Volunteer Opportunities With The Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission



**Genesee County Parks and
Recreation Commission
5045 Stanley Road
Flint, MI 48506
geneseecountyparks.org**

**For more information call:
Cindy Kimber,
Volunteer Coordinator
810.736.7100 ext.855
or email:
ckimber@gcparks.org**