

Deschutes Land Trust

Volunteer Position: Trailhead Host

Trailhead Hosts

Deschutes Land Trust Trailhead Hosts are volunteers who regularly greet visitors at the trailheads of Land Trust Preserves to promote the safe, responsible, and enjoyable use of our Preserves. Trailhead Hosts provide information to Preserve users, record and report problems or sightings to trail managers, and take an active role in promoting the Land Trust.

Trailhead Hosts are not required to walk or hike trails, but rather to stand or sit at trailheads near Land Trust Preserve parking areas.

Trailhead Hosts are specifically needed to help at Whychus Canyon Preserve, the Metolius Preserve (North Trailhead), Camp Polk Meadow Preserve, and Indian Ford Meadow Preserve.

Duties:

1. Represent Deschutes Land Trust in a professional, courteous manner that reflects well on the organization and avoids conflict.
2. Help Preserve visitors as needed.
 - a. Answer general questions about the Preserve and the Land Trust.
 - i. Natural history knowledge is a bonus!
 - b. Have available and distribute maps, contact information, and other literature to interested Preserve users.
 - c. Orient users to Preserve and offer hiking suggestions as needed.
 - d. Promote Preserve etiquette, safety, and awareness.
 - i. Trailhead Hosts educate users about Preserve etiquette and use. The Land Trust follows the Leave No Trace philosophy and expects Trailhead Hosts to share this information.
 - ii. Trailhead Hosts are NOT expected to enforce rules, but instead provide information in a friendly and positive manner. Often users are not aware that what they are doing violates rules or trail etiquette.
3. Check Preserve trailhead conditions
 - a. Assess kiosk and parking area for any needed services. Report needs to the Land Trust.



4. Report on Trailhead Host visits via the report form after each visit.

Requirements:

1. Volunteer only on the weekends and at least once a month from April-October.
2. Wear your official Land Trust Trailhead Host vest so other visitors can easily identify you.
3. Carry a small Trailhead Host supply kit, which will be provided to you, including: first aid materials, maps, brochures, dog bags, dog leashes, garbage bags, etc.
4. Fill out Trailhead Host Report Form for each visit.
5. Prior interpretive experience preferred.

Enforcement and Emergencies

Trailhead Hosts are never to take on law enforcement type responsibilities. In the unlikely event that you run into someone who is causing problems, do not try to handle the problem yourself. Instead:

- Please safely remove yourself from the situation
- Write down a description of the person or vehicle with any defining characteristics.
- Call the Land Trust office and relate the necessary details: 541-330-0017

Trailhead Hosts are not trained in CPR and First Aid. Trailhead Hosts have first aid kits to offer simple supplies for people to self-administer. Should you encounter an emergency situation and have access to a phone, contact 911. Try to stay with the victim(s) and get as much information as possible and relay that information to the dispatch.

