

Deschutes Land Trust

Volunteer Position: Hike Shepherds

Hike Shepherds

Deschutes Land Trust Hike Shepherds are volunteers who help out on Land Trust Walks + Hikes to create a safe and enjoyable hike. Shepherds help keep the group together, act as an “extra hand” for the hike leader, and provide Land Trust and naturalist information to hike attendees as needed. Training provided. Specific duties below.

Difficulty: Requires hiking a variety of trails at Land Trust Preserves. Some will be easy, some will be higher mileages in more rugged terrain. Hike shepherds can sign up for hikes that work for them!

Duties:

1. Represent Deschutes Land Trust in a professional, courteous manner that reflects well on the organization.
2. Help leaders ensure that hike participants have a great experience!
 - a. Help leaders with logistics. This includes but is not limited to: having participants sign waivers, handing out materials, parking participants, and waiting for late participants.
 - b. Help promote trail etiquette, safety and awareness.
 - i. Hike Shepherds can help educate users about trail etiquette and use. The Land Trust follows the Leave No Trace philosophy and expects hike participants to do the same.
3. Herd cats! Hike Shepherds are the tail (last hiker) on Land Trust hikes and it is their job to keep the group together and let leaders know if participants are falling behind, need more rest time, or can't hear what the leader is saying.
4. Help, as needed, with general questions about the Land Trust, property, or natural history.
5. Hike with participants who need more time and return to trailhead or meeting locations.
 - a. Hike Shepherds know Land Trust trails and properties and can get users where they need to be without a problem.
6. Assist in an emergency, as needed.



Requirements:

1. Wear your official Land Trust name tag so hike participants can identify you.
2. Attend hike shepherd trainings.
3. Have fun and learn from our expert hike leaders!
4. Report on your volunteer hours as needed.

Emergencies

Hike Shepherds and Hike Leaders not trained in CPR and First Aid. Leaders carry first aid kits to offer simple supplies for people to self-administer. In the unlikely event that an emergency occurs, help your hike leader in any way possible. Hike Shepherds may be the volunteer who is sent back to a trailhead to wait for EMS.

