

Deschutes Land Trust

Volunteer Position: Trail Ambassadors

Trail Ambassadors

Deschutes Land Trust Trail Ambassadors are volunteers who regularly hike trails at Land Trust Preserves to promote the safe, responsible, and enjoyable use of trails. Ambassadors provide information to trail users, record and report problems or sightings to Land Trust staff, and take an active role in promoting the Land Trust.

Difficulty: Requires hiking a variety of trails at Land Trust Preserves. Some will be higher mileages in more rugged terrain.

Duties:

1. Represent Deschutes Land Trust in a professional, courteous, inclusive 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 trail users.
 - c. Provide directional assistance for trail users.
 - i. Trail ambassadors know the trails well and can get users where they need to be without a problem.
 - d. Promote trail etiquette, safety and awareness.
 - i. Trail Ambassadors educate and inform users about trail etiquette and use in a friendly, inclusive manner. The Land Trust follows the Leave No Trace philosophy and expects ambassadors to share this information.
 - ii. Ambassadors are NOT expected to enforce rules, but instead provide information in a friendly, positive, and inclusive manner. Often trail users are not aware that what they are doing violates rules or trail etiquette.
3. Check overall Preserve and trail conditions.
 - a. Assess Preserve facilities: kiosk, parking area, trail and directional signs for any needed services. Refill kiosk supplies as needed. Wipe down kiosk and remove non-Land Trust items (lost gloves, hats, mittens, etc) from area as needed. Report other needs to the Land Trust.



- b. Clear small debris, branches, and trash from trail as needed. Report other trail needs to the Land Trust.
4. Report on trail ambassador visits via the report form after each visit.

Requirements:

1. Wear your official Land Trust Trail Ambassador vest.
2. Carry a small ambassador supply kit, which will be provided to you, including: first aid materials, maps, brochures, dog bags, dog leashes, garbage bags, etc.
3. Refill kiosk supplies at your dedicated kiosk, including trail maps and various brochures.
4. Wipe down kiosk and remove non-Land Trust items (lost gloves, hats, mittens etc) from area as needed.
5. Fill out Trail Ambassador Report Form after each visit.

Enforcement and Emergencies

Trail ambassadors 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

Trail Ambassadors are not trained in CPR and First Aid. 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.

