

CHINO HILL STATE PARK

Volunteer Opportunities



General Duties

The Chino Hills State Park Volunteer in Parks Program works under the direction of the Volunteer Coordinator. The primary focus of the Volunteer in Parks Program is to help provide services to visitors, interpret the cultural and environmental concepts, and to restore habitat at Chino Hills State Park. In addition, they provide other services by helping the public with general information about the park and its rules and regulations. They also report accidents, safety hazards, fire, other emergencies or problems observed in the park to the on duty ranger or other park emergencies as directed by park staff.

While working in the park, VIP members wear approved uniforms that identify them as State Park Volunteers, and as necessary, use and wear safety equipment appropriate for the task being performed. Members set a good example for our visiting public by upholding the State Park Mission and following all park rules and regulations. They conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner, keeping in mind that our visitors are our customers.

In addition to the above described duties, all VIPs will meet the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS listed below. They will also join one or more of the teams described herein, and they will meet the minimum requirements of each team.

- Have an interest in the natural and cultural history of Chino Hills State Park.
- Have the desire to learn.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be able to donate a minimum of 8 hours per month of service.
- Complete Volunteer Paperwork.
- Clear a criminal history background check.
- Maintain a valid driver's license and have a good driving record.
- Provide own transportation and uniform.
- Follow all instructions.
- Work well with others.
- Be dependable and report to assignments.
- Attend all required meetings and training sessions (These count for hours served).
- Report hours served each month by the 15th of the following month.
- Be comfortable in the outdoors and able to deal with experiences such as rattlesnake encounters

For more information or to start your registration process please contact the park office at 714-524-2471 or 951-780-6222

TEAM DESCRIPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Docent or Interpretation Team

Docent or Interpretation Team members host nature walks and programs at the Park and local community locations. They also research topics, prepare programs, write articles for the newsletters and create support materials such as brochures and illustrations for these programs and activities. They assist with various planned events at the park, working closely with other volunteers in the Bicycle Assistance Unit, the Mounted Assistance Unit, and Native Habitat Restoration Unit.

Docent or Interpretation Team Members are able to communicate with others and enjoy sharing their knowledge about the natural and cultural history at Chino Hills State Park with visitors. They are comfortable with leading a small group of youth and/or adult visitors on a minimum of ¼ mile walk or talking to an audience in a fixed location for at least thirty minutes. Team members continually learn more about the park's natural and cultural history.

Native Habitat Restoration Team

The Habitat Enhancement Team members focus on growing native plants in the park and using them in restoration projects at the park. They learn and/or teach others to identify plants, collect and process seed, plant it in various containers and care for the growing plants. Members also participate in planting plants at restoration sites, caring for them and monitoring sites while they are becoming established. Team members also assist with exotic pest plant removal projects and teach visitors and other volunteers about Chino Hills State Park vegetation communities and the park's restoration activities.

Habitat Enhancement Team members are able to take a one mile hike up steep slopes while collecting seed. They are also able to lift and carry items weighing fifteen pounds, such as potted plants and soil amendments and/or work in pairs when lifting and carrying items heavier. Team members use gardening hand tools such as shovels, rakes and pruners in a safe manner.

Trail Patrol Team

Trail Watch Team members are out and about having a presence on the trails. Volunteers may ride trails on horseback, on a mountain bike, or hike. Volunteers will provide their own horse or mountain bike. Bikes and horse must be maintained and in good working order. Horses must be ok around people and other situations. Team members will provide general information to park visitors. They will carry maps and an extra water bottle. Volunteer will provide in writing issues that need to be resolved, like a tree falling over the trail to the Volunteer Coordinator or park staff. Additionally, volunteers may inform visitors of park rules and will inform park staff of rule breakers. Team members are not to enforce the rules, but they are the eyes and ears for our law enforcement rangers and will report significant issues.

Program Assistance Team

Team members assist with improving and developing the Chino Hills State Park Volunteer Program. Activities and projects range from office assistance to creative endeavors to data management. Members often work in teams to complete tasks and objectives.

Team members have computer office, administrative, technical or artistic skills that they are willing to use to help the program improve. They will also teach these skills to other members and continually learn new skills themselves as they work to improve the program.