



**Montgomery County Parks Department**  
9500 Brunett Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20901  
Phone (301) 495-2504

### **VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION**

**JOB TITLE:** Trail Ranger – Natural Surface Trails  
**LOCATION:** Trails throughout Montgomery Parks, as assigned by Trail Volunteer Coordinator  
**TIME:** Quarterly Inspections – plus after major storm events

#### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Natural surface trails are among the most popular amenities in our park system. Concern for user safety and enjoyment and protecting the natural environment require that we regularly inspect and maintain over 120 miles of trail throughout the park system. Volunteers perform inspection and minor maintenance of assigned section of natural surface trail and report hazardous conditions, trail problems and other maintenance needs to the parks Service Center.

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Inspect assigned trail section a minimum four times per year and after major storm events. This entails recording and describing trail problems and hazards, including tree falls, structure damage, major tread damage and trash dumping.
2. Complete inspection and basic maintenance form for each field inspection. Submit form to the Montgomery Parks Service Center after each field inspection.
3. Perform basic trail maintenance tasks on assigned trail section including vegetation trimming and clearing encroaching vegetation, removal of debris and obstacles from the trail corridor, inspect and repaint directional blazes when necessary and pick up trash from trail corridor and park property.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Can inspect assigned trail segments once per quarter and within 5 days of major storm events
2. Interested in assisting Montgomery Parks fulfill our best management practices for natural surface trails
3. Able to communicate well with the public and represent Montgomery Parks in a positive manner
4. Able to work without direct supervision and on their own time
5. Capable of completing basic trail inspection and maintenance tasks
6. Successful completion of the volunteer training session

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

1. Minimum age of 18
2. Available to volunteer up to 8 hours per quarter, or as many hours as needed to perform field inspection and complete Volunteer Trail Inspection Form.
3. Committed to following park outlined policies and procedures

#### **TRAINING**

Provided by Montgomery Parks staff at a scheduled half-day session.

#### **BENEFITS TO VOLUNTEER**

1. Become familiar with County trails and trail maintenance techniques.
2. Help protect and enhance public resources.
3. Healthy exercise while enjoying the outdoors.