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BREAKNECK RIDGE TRAIL STEWARD POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Breakneck Ridge Trail Stewards will provide information about hiking and the responsible use of trails. They provide the public with educational information that will ensure the safe enjoyable use of hiking trails in the area. Trail Stewards will provide outreach and education in reference to the regulations, and traditions of Hudson Highlands State Park.

They work to encourage the best behavior on the part of hikers, to facilitate a positive trail experience (particularly for those who are poorly prepared). They discourage and mitigate misuse of the trails and the surrounding lands by performing educational and public-relations functions.

The six or seven Trail Stewards will share coverage to assure that one steward will be available at the Breakneck Ridge parking area and one will be available on the Breakneck Ridge trail every Saturday and Sunday and Monday Holiday from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day. This will allow for the occasional weekend off for individual stewards. Stewards must be able to work both independently with minimal supervision and cooperatively as a member of a team. Applicants should demonstrate the interest and ability to contribute to the public-service effort of working to promote the responsible use of hiking trails, volunteerism and membership in the Trail Conference. They should possess the required skills listed below and be able to attend required training. Applicants must demonstrate maturity, responsibility, initiative, and self-motivation.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Meet and greet the public and educate them about the best practices of hiking and how to be prepared.
- Introduce trail users to the Trail Conference and Leave No Trace hiking methods.
- Advise visitors and hikers of state and local regulations.
- Assist visitors and hikers whenever possible; assist emergency-response agencies when requested.
- Report unsafe conditions, misuse, and abuse of the trails (including vandalism, vagrancy, forest fires, beer and liquor parties, suspicious persons, vehicles, *etc.*)

Required Skills

- Commitment to Trail- and resource-protection efforts
- Proven ability to work alone with minimal supervision
- Excellent communication, diplomacy and education skills
- Ability to interact with the public under stressful conditions
- Extensive hiking experience and the ability to hike steep terrain for several hours

Desired Skills

- Knowledge of Leave No Trace principles
- Previous trail volunteer experience
- Knowledge of the Trail Conference and hiking in the New York Metropolitan region
- Current first-aid and CPR certification (Wilderness First-Aid certification is preferable)
- Familiarity with use of smartphone
- Understanding of Twitter and Facebook mobile applications and knowledge in their use
- Work with Trail Conference social media team to provide updates and information from the mountain

Application

To apply, please submit the following items via email attachments to jobs@nynjtc.org. Start all attachment filenames with your last name.

1. Resume
2. Cover letter addressing why you are interested in this position and what skills and attributes you bring.

All application materials will be kept confidential. The position is available until filled. Candidate interviews will begin immediately. No calls please.