



## Prairie Woods Nature Center Volunteer

If you love nature, teaching kids, getting out on the land, or simply lending a helping hand we have a place for you! We are always seeking dynamic volunteers to help out in the Prairie Woods Nature Center! The nature center is located in Oak Grove Park overlooking a spectacular vista. Inside will be filled with interactive displays with information regarding our local habitats, history and culture for visitors to explore. Weekday, weekend morning, afternoon and evening hours will be available.

### **Responsibilities and Duties**

Below is a list of specific areas you could sign up for and the responsibilities and duties associated with them. Our hope is for our volunteers to select tasks that align to with their interests and strengths.

**Animal Care:** We have permanent education animals on display. We like to keep their enclosures as top notch as possible. This requires a few house cleaning tasks each day, such as replacing water and select feedings days. Separate training will take place for those interested.

**Building and Grounds:** We want to make a good first impression on our guests. In order to achieve this, volunteers will be asked to help take care of certain areas within the building as well as the outdoor landscaping.

**Front Desk:** People will always have questions. We will aid you with information packets regarding information about the park, facilities, rentals and upcoming programs. We will also provide information regarding our exhibits and any current events. Volunteers will potentially assist in management of merchandise through the gift shop.

**Interpretive Trail:** We hope to provide our guests with information while on the trails. Whether it is facts about the park, plant ID or current prairie plants in bloom occasionally these will need to be swapped out to keep things fresh.

**Program Development:** We are always striving to improve our environmental education programs at SCCB. However, all new ideas require some leg work to get them ready to go. Volunteers will help execute the preparation of these programs to help enhance our overall program. This includes making copies, cutting things out, assembling examples etc.

**Teaching-Naturalist:** We host several groups in the building throughout the year. Volunteers could help with things like serving coffee/treats to groups, helping in summer camp (more information below) or helping with a school field trip. For school field trips volunteers may assist the Naturalist during a station, or lead a station. All material and instruction will be provided along with a separate training for those interested.

**Other:** We recognize some of you may have talents you wish to share with the community. Whether you are a photographer, historian, baking or a hobbyist or expert in \_\_\_\_\_, we welcome you to enrich our programs, displays and bestow your gifts on others.

### **Sign me up!**

If you are interested in donating your time and talents to Sioux County please follow the steps below.

- 1) Please fill out an application found on our website [www.siouxcountyparks.org/support/volunteer/](http://www.siouxcountyparks.org/support/volunteer/), or stop in the administration office in Prairie Woods Nature Center our 9:00am-4:00pm business hours to pick one up.
- 2) After SCCB receives your application, we will get in contact with you to further discuss your specific interests or answer any questions you may have.
- 3) Training if needed and Begin!

### **Questions:**

If you have any questions regarding this position, please call (712) 552-3057. We will be happy to explain anything that is unclear and work with you to see if this position is a good fit for you.

### **Other opportunities to serve:**

Sioux County Conservation Board puts on countless programs throughout the year for the general public. None of them would be possible without the dedication and enthusiasm of our volunteers. Consider joining one or both of our outreach teams as we continue serving the county!

**Event Volunteer:** We put on several events throughout the year that would not be possible without more help. Event volunteers can help with running stations, helping with meals, registration, parking, set up and take down or just general supervision.

**Summer Camp Volunteer:** Assist our Environmental Education staff in various summer camps for ages 3 and up throughout the summer. You will help our staff with camp crafts, activities, games and be in charge of a small group of kids, typically 3-5, while we hike the trails. This would also fall under the "Teaching-Naturalist" Category listed above.