



Heart Lake Program Center
1002 Adirondack Loj Road
Lake Placid, NY
518-523-3441 | info@adk.org

VOLUNTEER TRAILHEAD STEWARD

ADK (Adirondack Mountain Club) works to protect New York State wild lands and waters by promoting responsible outdoor recreation and building a statewide constituency of land stewardship advocates. Since 1922, the organization has worked to increase access to the backcountry by building trails, conserving natural areas, and developing a stewardship community that supports the ethical and safe use of New York's outdoor spaces. A member, donor, and volunteer-supported organization, ADK reaches across New York through its 27 chapters to inspire people to enjoy the outdoors ethically.

POSITION SUMMARY

An ADK Trailhead Steward is an educator and dedicated volunteer professional who enjoys engaging with the public to share their knowledge and assist visitors in having a safe and enjoyable outdoor experience. They will act as an onsite ambassador for ADK and share ADK's mission with the public, encouraging membership and involvement. These individuals must be comfortable working in a fast-paced environment sometimes in extreme weather conditions. They should have thorough knowledge of ADK & its facilities, common hiking trails, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regulations and Leave No Trace outdoor skills and ethics.

ADK's Trailhead Stewardship Program offers a service that allows you to spend a week greeting and engaging with our visitors about responsible recreation while sharing knowledge of ADK. The program offers a unique opportunity to educate visitors to The Heart Lake Program Center to ensure a safe and enjoyable outdoor experience.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Arrive on time and ready to help HPIC staff
- Help park vehicles safely while keeping the flow of traffic going
- Communicate with booth attendant to inform them when spots are limited (~below 20), when at 10 left, and when full.
- Communicate when spots open after filling.
- Talk with hikers about where they are going to, make sure they are well equipped and prepared for their adventures, direct them to the HPIC if they need additional equipment or gear.
- Talk about the Adirondack Mountain Club to hikers as much as possible to inform them about who we are, what we do, why we are important to the conservation and preservation of this area, and ways they can help give back to ADK.
- Ask HPIC staff how to help additionally when slow. Could include gathering garbage from parking lots, de-cobweb porch, sweeping porch, etc.
- Record how many people you are speaking to with a counter.
- Report to HPIC Manager or Assistant Manager at the end of the shift to discuss the day and let them know you are leaving.

REQUIREMENTS

- 18 years old or older
- Ability to stand and walk for several hours
- Ability to lift up to 40 lbs.

SCHEDULE

Hosts check-in every morning at the HPIC at 6:00am (weekends) and 6:30am (weekdays) to get the radio, weather report and related information. Throughout the morning they park cars and count spots to help the Parking Booth staff fill the lots to capacity. If it is a slow day and there aren't many visitors to interact with, they will help HPIC staff with additional tasks. Shifts end at 12:30pm (weekdays) & 12:00pm (weekends).

VOLUNTEER BENEFITS

- During your stay as a host, a campsite for two people with a platform tent, picnic table, fireplace, fire wood, picnic shelter cover and sleeping cots, and an electric outlet
- Use of certain specific ADK amenities, when available, such as canoes and kayaks
- Three meals per day provided at the Adirondak Loj
- During your stay as host a twenty-five percent (25%) discount on all items sold at the HPIC store and The Hungry Hiker food stand

ORGANIZATIONAL STATEMENT

As an organization, we appreciate a diverse set of skills and candidates eager and willing to grow and learn with our organization. As such, our volunteer position descriptions are general overviews, not a mandatory comprehensive list. If you feel passionate about our efforts and believe that you have the skills and aptitude to succeed in this role, we want to hear from you.

ADK affirms its commitment to equal volunteer opportunity for all individuals. Decisions about recruiting, training, benefits, and all similar volunteer matters are made in compliance with all federal, state and local laws and without regard to race, color, religion, gender, ethnic or national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, familial status, military status or any other classification protected by federal or state law.