

2026 Service-Learning Volunteer Position

5 service-learning positions will be available during the 2026 summer break (Mid-May through early August). No experience is needed, and training is provided for those with an interest in exploring the natural resources profession.

These unpaid positions provide a variety of hands-on field experiences and develop skills in areas such as invasive plant management, native plant installation and maintenance, and green infrastructure maintenance. *If comfortable with herbicide application, students may become an Ohio Trained Serviceperson in herbicide utilization.*

Volunteers will report to West Creek Management Center located at 1969 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma. The center is 0.3 miles from an RTA bus stop on Routes 53-53A.

Requirements

- A minimum 40-hour commitment including 6+ hour blocks of time on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (priority will be given to applicants committing greater amounts of time)
- Interest in and enthusiasm for learning about a natural resources career
- Positive disposition and strong work ethic
- Willingness to work in adverse weather conditions including rain, high or low temperatures, high humidity, insects, and difficult terrain
- Ability to walk up to 2 miles daily in challenging terrain
- Ability to carry a 30-pound pack for 4 hours a day
- Willingness to learn a variety of land management techniques including how to safely operate relevant tools and equipment
- Willingness to carry out responsibilities in a safe and efficient manner
- Compliance with Cleveland Metroparks policies
- Equipment provided by volunteer: a durable water bottle, sturdy outdoor footwear and pants
- Must be 18 years of age or older upon start date

Applications: Applications must include both a cover letter and a resume to be considered. Submissions are due no later than 5 pm on Friday, April 17th and can be submitted [here](#). Any questions regarding the position can be emailed to Valerie Carter-Stone at vcs@clevelandmetroparks.com.



Cleveland Metroparks Mission Statement: protecting nature, connecting communities and inspiring conservation of our world

Cleveland Metroparks is the oldest park district in Ohio, including over 25,000 acres across 18 reservations. There is something for everyone with over 100 trails, 9 golf courses, 5 swimming areas, more than 2,500 picnic tables, 4 miles of Lakefront, 700-foot toboggan chutes and a nationally acclaimed zoo!