



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Saylorville Lake's Greatest Natural Resource

VOLUNTEERS



Saylorville Lake Needs Your Help



The Saylorville Lake Team is dedicated to providing quality outdoor recreation and natural resources. Federal budget restraints make operating Saylorville Lake more difficult each year. We need your help in making Saylorville the best it can be. To become a part of the Saylorville Lake Volunteer Team fill out the Volunteer Application and check the activities in which you are interested. The following are descriptions of the volunteer positions. Some positions have limited space available. You will be contacted as these positions open up. Join our Team of nearly 1,000 volunteers and make a difference in your parks!

Volunteer Positions

Butterfly Gardening

Volunteers are assigned a flowerbed in the Butterfly Garden area located just north of the Visitor Center on the bike trail. Gardeners help plan, plant and maintain each bed. This position takes just a few hours each week during the growing season. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the many gardening techniques and the wide range of butterfly species that can be attracted here in Iowa. Plants and some equipment are provided by the government.

Bluebird Nest Box Monitor

Take a nice relaxing walk as you check for signs of nesting birds in the bluebird boxes around the lake. Volunteers are assigned an area at the lake with 6-12 boxes. The boxes are checked a minimum of once a week through the spring and summer. Records of the activity in each of the boxes are kept and compiled at the end of breeding season.

Bird Feeder Program

Many bird feeders can be found throughout the winter around the Visitor Center. Volunteers are needed to keep the feeders full and clean. Each volunteer checks the feeders once a week, hours of the day depend on availability of the volunteer. The main bird feeder program runs October through April. A few feeders are maintained through the summer for those looking for just a summer activity.



Natural Resource Habitat Enhancement

Volunteers willing to get dirty in the outdoors will love this opportunity. Saylorville takes pride in maintaining healthy habitats but we need your help to provide the needed TLC. Some work areas may be remote. This position will involve some lifting, digging, pruning, mulching and raking. There may also be some data collection and use of chemicals. It is available March thru November. Knowledge of pruning methods, tree care and use of chemicals is preferred, but training is available.

Educational Programming

Here's a chance to really strut your stuff. If you've got a particular skill or knowledge about the outdoors or have outdoor skills you'd like to share in a fun and challenging way, we'd like to provide a "stage" and professional assistance. If you're shy and would rather take part in a more subtle fashion, you can assist one of the Saylorville Lake Rangers conduct popular and educational programs such as the Halloween Prowl, nature programs, nature walks and boating safety demonstrations. This opportunity is particularly attractive to those who have experience as an educator. We'll provide the equipment and a uniform shirt.



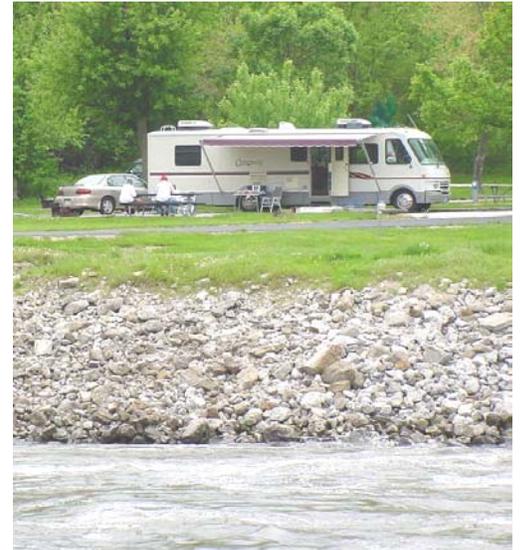
Volunteer Hosts

Campground Host – Part-time

Volunteer hosts serve to welcome new campers, orient campers to area features and events, answers questions and as assigned may conduct interviews to collect suggestions from campers on how we can better serve the public. The host will stay in one of the "Class A" campgrounds for two weeks at no cost. The government will provide all administrative materials, a volunteer cap, training and reference material. This program has been in operation since 1990 with great success.

Campground Host – Full-time

The primary duty of full-time campground hosts is to staff the campground entrance station when the contracted fee attendant is off duty on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays (10am to 2pm). These hosts handle no fees, assist walk-in campers, and answer the phone. Full-time hosts shall provide a minimum of 21 hours of volunteer service per week and may serve for the entire recreation season. The government will provide a campsite, all administrative materials, a volunteer cap, training and reference material.



Day Use Fee Booth Host

As a fee booth host you will staff a small booth at the entrance to beaches and boat ramps. Although there are no sales involved, volunteers will inspect vehicles as they drive through for the appropriate pass. You will answer visitor questions, give directions and answer the telephone. Hours, day of week and length of shift is flexible. Camping fees can be waived for this position depending on the number of hours donated. The Corps of Engineers will provide training, reference materials, and a uniform shirt and hat.

Day Use Custodial Host

Volunteers are used as a cost effective way to provide basic services such as opening and closing gates for the purpose of extending the season of selected day use areas. The mere presence of the host in an area is designed to provide a minimum level of security and encourage appropriate visitor use, thus reducing the risk of vandalism. The Corps of Engineers will provide a campsite with electrical hook-up. Areas include Cottonwood, Oak Grove and Walnut Ridge. Months available are March, April, October and November.

Visitor Center Host

Volunteers will be assigned to staff an information desk for blocks of time on a regular or on-call basis. This includes answering a telephone, answering questions about the Saylorville Lake area and handling some sales from a small sales counter. The frequency and length of duty will vary with the individual host availability and seasonal Visitor Center hours. The government will furnish a nametag, volunteer polo shirt, provide an orientation and intermittent training.



Recycling Coordinator

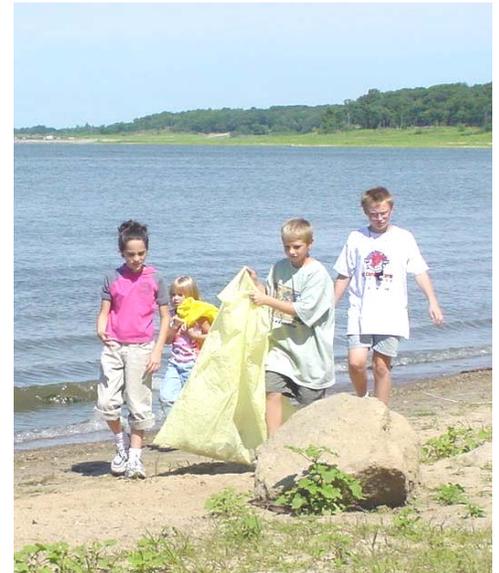
This position is designed for a camper that is interested in encouraging others to participate in a recycling program. The recycling coordinator will monitor recycling bins located in the recreation areas. They may also coordinate clean up days with youth groups. The Corps of Engineers will provide a campsite with electrical hook-up for the recreation season. This position is for someone wanting to camp for the summer.

Trail Maintenance

Duties may include but are not limited to scheduled litter pick up, spreading trail base material, drainage maintenance and sign placement. The government can provide equipment and materials, protective clothing if necessary, volunteer ball caps and transportation of equipment where necessary.

Shoreline Beautification & Litter Pick Up

Much of Saylorville's shoreline is left with hundreds of pounds of trash from summer recreation enthusiasts. This area of service involves landscaping, litter removal, etc. The Corps of Engineers will provide materials or equipment as necessary. This is a great opportunity for scouts or civic groups. Help us keep the shoreline clear for feeding and resting sites of migrating waterfowl.



Carpentry

Saylorville Lake often needs assistance with small repairs and wood projects. Some of this work can be done in the convenience of your own home. Materials can be provided.

Photographer

Amateur and avid photographers are needed to take photos of the Saylorville Lake area and special events. Photo taking can range from scenic photos of the lake to technical photos for historical record keeping. You must have your own camera; the Corps can supply the film and development.

Office Attendant

Volunteers are needed to provide assistance to rangers compiling and entering data on computers, mailing information, developing flyers and letters. This work is generally conducted Monday through Friday a few hours per week at the Administration Office. Computer skills are a must.

For more information:



For more information on becoming part of the Saylorville Lake Volunteer Team contact volunteer coordinator, Kelly Ulrick at 276-4656 ext. 237 or write to Saylorville Lake, 5600 NW 78th Avenue, Johnston, Iowa 50131 or send e-mail to kelly.d.ulrick@usace.army.mil or check out the Saylorville web site at www.SaylorvilleLake.org . For nation-wide Corps Volunteer Opportunities call the Volunteer Clearing House at 1-800-VOL-TEER or check out the web site at www.orn.usace.army.mil/volunteer .

