Adopt-A-Trail Volunteer Volunteer Job Description

Adopt-A-Trail (AAT) Volunteers adopt a trail or section of trail on one of Shirley Heinze Land Trust's nature preserves and help monitor and perform minor maintenance on the trail in order to assist staff and increase the organization's capacity to offer trails for public enjoyment.

Qualifications:

- Be willing to make a minimum 6-month commitment to monitor the assigned trail monthly
- Be physically able to walk a trail with varying terrain in varying weather conditions
- Have a strong interest in Shirley Heinze Land Trust and be committed to its mission
- Be willing and able to travel to the preserve (must have valid driver's license if driving)
- Be personable and detail-oriented.
- Have good communication and recordkeeping skills to communicate activity and conditions to staff.
- Be at least 18 years of age or be accompanied by an adult.

Essential Tasks:

- Pick up litter and debris from the parking lot and trails
- Cut back small branches that are encroaching on the trail corridor and move branches off the trail
- Serve as a representative of Shirley Heinze Land Trust and liaison with property visitors
- Take photos - beautiful or interesting nature photos, as well as photos of problems you may encounter (downed trees across the trail, vandalism, large quantities of litter)
- Report time spent and activity on the preserve to staff after each visit via an online form
- Be safe. Do not approach a situation or object of concern that may be dangerous. If you encounter anything unusual or unsafe, immediately contact staff to report the problem.

Benefits:

- Free training in land conservation and stewardship topics
- Work with Shirley Heinze Land Trust staff and volunteers with similar interests in nature
- Donated time is used by the organization to leverage matching funds, increasing the organization's capacity for additional projects such as land acquisition, stewardship, and public access amenities
- Play a key role in keeping natural areas beautiful and open for others to enjoy and learn about nature
- Spend quality time in nature, benefiting mind, body, and spirit