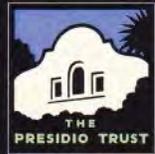


Golden Gate

Volunteers-In-Parks Program Vision



Volunteers-In-Parks Mission Statement

The mission of the volunteer program at the Golden Gate National Parks is to deepen engagement with the park by individuals and groups through a commitment to the preservation and enhancement of the park's resources. The volunteer program operates in an atmosphere of respect for the talents of park volunteers, and deep appreciation for their contribution to the park.



The Parks Conservancy is the nonprofit membership organization created to:

- Preserve the Golden Gate National Parks,
- Enhance the experiences of park visitors, and
- Build a community dedicated to conserving the parks for the future.

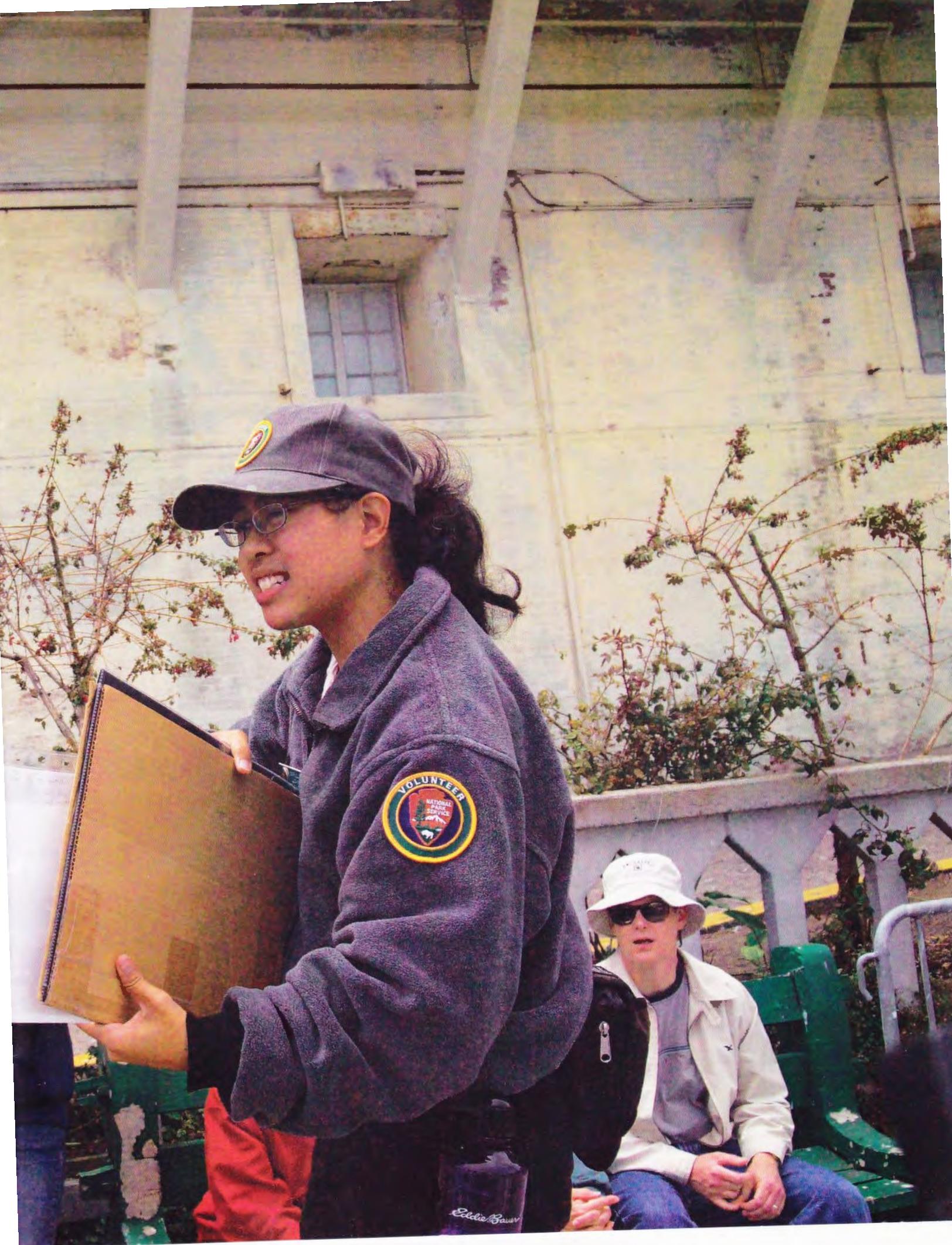


The Presidio Trust's mission is to preserve and enhance the Presidio as an enduring resource for the American public.



The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Summer interpretive intern brings history alive on Alcatraz.





Core Values

Cooperation

We create and maintain partnerships with individuals and with volunteers affiliated with local, national and international organizations.

Commitment

We encourage long-term dedication and commitment by our volunteers.

Enjoyment

We create and maintain a positive and collegial work environment in our park managed volunteer programs.

Flexibility

We manage a variety of volunteer projects, but will adjust priorities when necessary to assure identified outcomes.

Fulfillment

Volunteer managers provide meaningful work with measurable outcomes that encourage volunteers' personal growth and satisfaction.

Integrity

We focus on programs with high standards and clear commitments to our volunteers. Within our parkwide volunteer program we will build pride and encourage personal responsibility.

Education

We recognize the importance of continually providing opportunities to improve our volunteers' knowledge of the resource, sharpen skills and increase effectiveness.

Respect

We focus on a creative work environment that promotes an approachable staff and volunteers who exemplify a "Can Do Attitude." We treat volunteers as members of the park team, with a parkwide perspective. They will be given a voice in the volunteer program.

Programs for All People

We accept each person as any individual, while acknowledging and appreciating cultural differences and varying abilities. We are sensitive to volunteers' individual needs.

Recognition

We acknowledge our volunteers with sincere appreciation for their contributions.

Safety

Safety of park volunteers is always the highest priority.

Volunteers help restore the historic gardens of Alcatraz.



Volunteers-In-Parks Management Team

The Golden Gate National Parks Volunteer Program is a cooperative effort of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the National Park Service, and the Presidio Trust. Our Volunteer Management Team is comprised of staff, representing Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, Maintenance, Interpretation, Law Enforcement, and Administration. Through the collective efforts of the team, we strive to attain excellence in engaging a broad audience of volunteers, providing exceptional volunteer experiences and identifying new and innovative program opportunities, while meeting the conservation, stewardship, and education needs of the park goals. As a result, the Golden Gate National Parks Volunteer Program is consistently ranked number one among all National Parks in both the number of volunteers engaged and volunteer hours contributed.

We offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities year round throughout the parks in an effort to match volunteer interests, abilities, age, location and available time with the ongoing needs of the park. We have opportunities for individual and groups in San Francisco, Marin, and San Mateo counties including regularly scheduled and drop-in programs, group projects, special events, internships, and specialized long-term positions.

Each year tens of thousands of volunteers provide hundreds of thousand of hours in service to the Golden Gate National Parks. These volunteers, and volunteers nationwide, play a critical role in preserving our National Parks by protecting treasured open space, and sustaining the health of our communities.

Summer youth from the Crissy Center Urban Trailblazers Program learning about the importance of open space & natural environments.

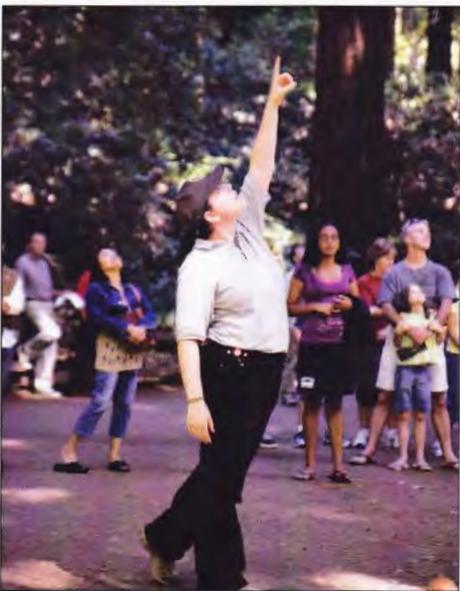
Menu of Volunteer Programs



Landscape Maintenance and Historic Site Restoration

An old building or a new plan; preserve, maintain and enhance the natural and historical landscape.

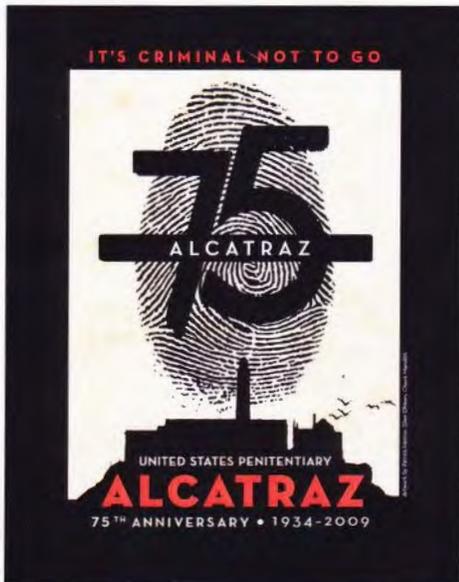
- Alcatraz Historic Gardens
- Alcatraz Maintenance
- Area A Maintenance (Presidio Shoreline)
- Crissy Field Landscape
- Cultural Resources Stewards
- Fort Baker Stewardship
- Fort Mason Gardeners
- Marin Headlands Maintenance
- Muir Woods Maintenance
- Nike Missile Site
- Presidio Gardeners



Public Talks and Walks and "Parks As Classrooms"

Interpret landscapes and connect visitors to their park. Educate in the best classroom, the outdoors.

- Alcatraz Docents and Interns
- Fort Point Docents and Reenactors
- Marin Headlands Docents
- Marin Headlands Visitor Center
- Muir Woods Docents
- Muir Woods Visitor Center
- Nike Site Docents
- Parks As Classrooms Interns
- Presidio Visitor Center
- Point Bonita Lighthouse Docents
- Presidio Docents
- Presidio Visitor Center
- Snowy Plover Docents
- Trail Docents



New Media and Visual Arts Communications

Use technology as a tool. Media and visual arts connects visitors, enhances marketing and develops a global audience. Get connected!

- Artists in Residence
- Design Volunteers-In-Parks

Young volunteers learn orienteering in the parks.





Top: I-YEL encourages young people to be advocates for environmental and social change. Above: LINC students work together to level the trails at Fort Funston. Left: Volunteers at Mori Point spend the day weeding and restoring the ponds.

Visitor Safety and Protection

Safety is no accident. Keep the public safe while experiencing the park. Protect the future of the park and its users.

- Horse Patrol
- Junior Lifeguard

Special Youth Leadership Programs

Guide our future forward. Facilitate youth in parks and provide leadership programs. Lead the way!

- CAP (Camping at the Presidio)
- I-YEL (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders)
- LINC (Linking Individuals to their Natural Community)
- Summer Camp
- Counselors-In-Training
- Teens on Trails
- Urban Trail Blazers

General Management and Administration

Provide leadership and guidance, be the eyes and ears of the park. Connect your community to the park through celebration and events.

- Parks Conservancy Board of Trustees
- Parks Conservancy Special Events



Trail Maintenance and Restoration

Take a hike. Create world class trail systems for your community to enjoy today and for years to come. Connect historical and natural aspects of the park through maintenance repair and construction of trails.

- Golden Gate Trail Crew
- Presidio Trail Crew
- Trail Crew Volunteers
- Trail Keepers

Beach Cleanups and Maintenance

Keep our coastline clean, safe and beautiful. Repair coastline habitat and remove refuse from your beaches. A clean beach is a happy beach.

- Beaches Parkwide



Habitat Restoration and Monitoring

Enhance and restore vital native habitats in your park. Provide a place for endangered threatened species to thrive and keep our native wildlife around for years to come.

- Alcatraz Natural Resources
- Aquatic Ecology
- Habitat Restoration Team
- Invasive Plant Patrol
- Lands End Stewardship
- Park Stewards
- Presidio Compost Program
- Presidio Park Stewards
- Presidio Plant Patrol
- Weed Watchers

Hawk Watching, Banding and Telemetry

Inspire preservation and restoration through long term study of amazing birds of prey, raptors. Watch, band, learn and teach about these majestic birds.

- Golden Gate Raptor Observatory



Native Plant Nurseries

Help it grow! Over 140,000 native plants each year are grown through these community based programs. Foster growth in your communities and your plants.

- Fort Funston Nursery & Stewardship
- Marin Headlands Nursery
- Oceana Nursery
- Presidio Nursery
- Redwood Creek Nursery & Stewardship
- Tennessee Valley Nursery

Volunteers provide daily care for Park Police horses.



Goals and Objectives

GOAL

Volunteer recruitment and placement is user friendly and targeted to the needs of the park.

OBJECTIVES

- Refine and enhance existing recruitment and outreach practices by continually assessing program recruitment needs.
- Continue to provide feedback to www.volunteer.gov/gov.
- Improve response systems for volunteer inquiries and applications.
- Continue to use program and staff resources efficiently through collaborative parkwide efforts.
- Provide a variety of structured opportunities for both short and long-term volunteerism that cater to age, ability, skill levels, interests, location, and available time.

GOAL

Our volunteer program engages and connects youth from diverse communities.

OBJECTIVES

- Create a strategic plan for diversity outreach using social science research data.
- Develop targeted recruitment strategies in collaboration with Crissy Center staff.
- Broaden the scope of the internship program and investigate new approaches to better support expenses and attract a more diverse candidate pool.
- Expand teen and young adult volunteer program opportunities to reach a wider audience of underserved populations.
- Use I-YEL and LINC as case studies for volunteer youth development and leadership.
- Expand volunteer stewardship opportunities for pre-K through 6th grade in partnership with parkwide education programs.
- Make multilingual publications and website content available for park volunteers.
- Partner with local universities and colleges to provide students with opportunities to explore and develop career interests within the National Park Service, Parks Conservancy, and Presidio Trust.
- Continue providing and explore new options for accessible VIP programs.

Corporate and civic volunteer groups help maintain the park trail systems.



STANFORD
CLASS OF 2005

BERKELEY

GOAL

Recruit and inspire Volunteers to engage in long-term commitments to parkwide programs.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop volunteer positions with flexible schedules and opportunities for leadership and skill development.
- Utilize social science research data to inform volunteer job development.
- Determine what each site and program has to offer in attracting a longer volunteer commitment.
- Diversify volunteer job descriptions and enhance the scope of duties to attract long-term volunteers.
- Develop methods to encourage episodic volunteers and groups to return and participate in future programs.
- Solicit feedback from current volunteers to assess satisfaction, motivation and program effectiveness.
- Develop volunteer descriptions for specialized skills and projects.
- Develop descriptions that focus on the special and unique aspects of each site and program to make our programs stand out from similar programs offered through other organizations.

GOAL

Recognition of volunteers is an integral part of the parkwide program.

OBJECTIVES

- Create a parkwide standardized recognition system that promotes personal, appropriate and timely recognition.
- Determine and develop standard and programmatic levels of recognition.
- Host an annual parkwide volunteer appreciation party and develop new innovative appreciation gatherings.
- Integrate environmental integrity in volunteer recognition.
- Promote and participate in local and national recognition programs, i.e. Take Pride in America.

GOAL

Volunteer program housing needs are being met.

OBJECTIVES

- Ensure the Volunteer Committee helps to inform the Housing IA with Presidio Trust.
- Develop clearly defined roles and responsibilities for Dorm Managers and Volunteer Supervisors and review biannually.
- Ensure the Housing Officer and Dorm Managers meet periodically with Volunteer Committee to review roles, responsibilities and any needs.
- Make certain that living spaces are cleaned and well supplied.

A volunteers gets up close & personal with one of the parks inhabitants.



GOAL

Interns and volunteers gain new skills through regular trainings.

OBJECTIVES

- Create an overall strategy defining the goals and objectives of the Park Academy.
- Explore alternative resources for the Park Academy.
- Encourage more staff instruction and participation in the Park Academy course planning.
- Identify and utilize external training resources.
- Make first aid and safety trainings available to all volunteers.

GOAL

Park volunteer managers and supervisors are provided updated skills in volunteer management training.

OBJECTIVES

- Collaborate with other local and national volunteer focused organizations for training and networking.
- Identify and utilize external training resources.
- Continue to offer standard and advanced NPS Volunteer Management courses.
- Expand training options for Park Volunteer Managers in collaboration with the Park Academy.
- Provide cultural competency and language education opportunities for field Park Volunteer Managers.

Volunteers of all ages are becoming stewards of the park.

