

# Position Description

## 900 Half Time AmeriCorps Member

### Giant Springs State Park, Great Falls



**Term of service:** March 10, 2014 – August 15, 2014

**Service schedule:** Member will serve a minimum of 910 hours over a 23 week term, averaging 41 hours per week with 40 hours of holiday, vacation or sick time

#### **Position Summary:**

Giant Springs State Park is a wonderful asset to the community of Great Falls; it provides a multitude of family fun recreational opportunities to include: fishing, hiking, biking, picnicking, bird watching and historical interpretation. The State Park also hosts visitors from afar, they visit the park for the historical presence of Lewis & Clark, the amazing natural Giant Spring, the State Fish Hatchery and the beautiful scenery. The State Park is loved and cherished by more than 250,000 visitors a year.

The AmeriCorps member will play an integral role in Giant Springs State Park. They will design and implement special events throughout the summer and coordinate the Giant Springs volunteer program. They will need to collaborate with other organizations and special interest groups to design and publish a single track trail map for the area, which will provide them the opportunity to enhance community relations and expand local marketing of Giant Springs State Park. The AmeriCorps member will also be required to attend local special interest meeting and other meetings to become involved in the local community.

Montana State Parks AmeriCorps members perform capacity building activities. Their service revolves around the program goals listed below in order to ensure that they do not displace workers or take part in any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations. Montana State Parks AmeriCorps members *will* likely participate in activities that involve recurring contact with vulnerable populations.

Member will contribute to the following program goals:

- Improve park land
- Expand educational and interpretive programs
- Increase volunteer capacity\*
- Enhance outreach and awareness of state parks
- Participate in service activities including National Days of Service\*\*
- Respond to disasters, when called upon to do so by the program

#### **Specific Position Responsibilities: (no specific order of importance)**

- Coordinate and implement interpretation programs with school groups and park visitors
- Enhance community outreach
- Expand local marketing for Giant Springs State Park and surrounding trail system
- Partner with the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center on programs and events
- Expand and coordinate a sustainable volunteer program for Giant Springs State Park to



include: Individual volunteers and groups

- Design & implement a single track trail map for the North Shore and South Shore trail systems
- Coordinate, design and implement multiple special events throughout the summer
- Complete other AmeriCorps duties, as needed

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Over 18 with a high school diploma or GED; college degree or equivalent work experience preferred
- A United States citizen, United States National, or legal permanent resident alien
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Ability to take initiative, handle multiple projects, track details essential to project completion, analyze information, and meet deadlines
- Strong ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing with diverse groups of people
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Basic computer proficiency
- Passion for the outdoors and enthusiasm for enhancing Montana's state parks
- A driver's license and personal means of transportation within the state of Montana
- Must pass a national service criminal history check

**Benefits:**

- Living allowance of \$5,280 over 23 week term of service
- An AmeriCorps Education Award of \$2,775 upon successful completion of service. This award can be used to pay education costs at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training and resources, or to repay qualified student loans. Members aged 55 and over may transfer the education award to a child, grandchild or foster child.
- Eligible for deferment on qualified student loans
- Experience and training working in the fields of outdoor recreation, parks management, interpretive services, and volunteer management
- Opportunity to live, work and be part of the team amid the natural wonders and cultural heritage of Montana State Parks

\* Volunteers support the management and operation of Montana State Parks. They do not take part in any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations.

\*\*Service activities will center around the preceding program goals as well as provide unique opportunities for members to engage in service to non-profit community organizations that provide support to those in need, including victims of national disasters, the poor, veterans, homeless animals, and other groups. Service projects will take place on and around designated National Days of Service as well as other AmeriCorps organized events, such as member trainings. Service activities will not include any prohibited or unallowable activities as outlined in AmeriCorps regulations.

*The Montana State Parks AmeriCorps Program, as administered by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, shall provide equal access to opportunities provided by the Program and shall not discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified individuals with known disabilities unless doing so would result in an undue hardship. The accommodation must be essential for the Member to perform his/her service successfully. Funds for reasonable accommodations are available for use by members with disabilities who have been offered a position with an AmeriCorps Program and require an accommodation to fulfill the essential functions of their service.*

**Applicant Certification**

*I certify that I have reviewed this Position Description and understand the general roles and responsibilities of this Montana State Parks AmeriCorps position*

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date ||| \_\_\_\_\_