



## 2018 MONTANA STATE PARK VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Last updated May 29, 2018  
(Parks are listed in alphabetical order)*

Please note that many of our parks would welcome the opportunity to work with groups when given ample notice. Feel free to reach out to your local park manager to discuss.

### Anaconda Smoke Stack State Park

100 Smelter Road, Anaconda, MT 59711

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Stack Centennial assistant</b> – educate festival attendees about the park and its history, and potentially help lead bus tours between the festival area and the smoke stack, one of the tallest free-standing brick structures in the world.	Half day	August 8-12

**Contact:** Tom Forwood at [tforwood@mt.gov](mailto:tforwood@mt.gov) or at (406) 287-3541.

### Bannack State Park

721 Bannack Road, Dillon, MT 59725

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Bannack Days festival assistance</b> – come celebrate with us while helping to direct parking, lead gold panning activities, or assist with set up/take down.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	July 21-22
<b>Trail maintenance</b> – give back to your public lands as part of National Public Lands Day and help us beautify the trails and assist with ongoing park stabilization projects.	Half day	September 29
<b>Bannack ghost walk assistance</b> – join us for a spooky night of ghost stories. Volunteers are needed to keep bonfires tended throughout the night and carry lanterns for the ghost walks.	2-4 hrs.	October 26-27

**Contact:** Cassidy Bender at [cassidy.bender@mt.gov](mailto:cassidy.bender@mt.gov) or at (406) 834-3413.

### Black Sandy State Park

6563 Hauser Dam Road, Helena, MT 59602

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Campground host</b> – enjoy lake living as a campground host.	2-4 months	Spring-Fall
<b>Small maintenance project assistance</b> – come help us with litter pickup, painting, trail maintenance, weed pulls, and other small projects.	From 2 hrs. up to a full day, and/or multiple days	Spring-Fall

**Contact:** Craig Putschat at [cputchat@mt.gov](mailto:cputchat@mt.gov) or at (406) 495-3270.

### [Brush Lake State Park](#)

1733 Brush Lake Road, Dagmar, MT 59219

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Campground host</b> – this remote state park needs help with noxious weed control, light maintenance duties, and providing excellent customer service by greeting visitors and answering questions. Full hook ups provided.	8 hrs. per day	May 21- September 10

**Contact:** Chris Dantic at [cdantic@mt.gov](mailto:cdantic@mt.gov) or at (406) 377-6256.

### [Cooney State Park](#)

86 Lake Shore Road, Roberts, MT 59070

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Campground host</b> – enjoy lake living as a campground host.	Minimum 3 wks.	Spring-Fall
<b>Trail weed patrol</b> – help us maintain our trails by walking and removing weeds as you enjoy the lovely views of the Cooney Reservoir and Beartooth Mountains.	From 2 hrs. up to a full day, and/or multiple days	Spring, Summer
<b>Campground docent</b> – stroll through the campgrounds greeting visitors, making friends, and providing valuable information to the public.	Minimum 1 hr.	May 18- September 10
<b>Zen mowing</b> – join our team of synchronized mowers and enjoy the outdoors while riding on a lawn mower, cutting grass in perfect lines, and creating beautiful patterns for the public to enjoy.	Minimum 3 hrs.	May and June

**Contact:** Marina Matheson at [mmatheson@mt.gov](mailto:mmatheson@mt.gov) or at (406) 445-2326.

### [First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park](#)

342 Ulm -Vaughn Road, Ulm, MT 59485

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Various</b> – Immerse yourself in the fascinating history and buffalo culture of First Peoples. Come help us with special events, front desk operations, or, put your outdoor or primitive skills to use as part of our interpretative programming.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	May 20- September 30

**Contact:** Alice Southworth at [alice.southworth@mt.gov](mailto:alice.southworth@mt.gov) or at (406) 866-2217.

### [Giant Springs State Park](#)

4803 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT 59405

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Ranger station volunteer</b> – be the friendly face of Giant Springs and assist the rangers. Contact Clark or Fay (info below) for more information.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	April-September (on Mondays and Tuesdays)

<b>Weekly weed terminators</b> – become a terminator – a terminator of weeds. Contact Clark or Fay (info below) for more information.	From 2 hrs. up to a full day, and/or multiple days	April-September (any day of the week)
<b>Field trip leader</b> – Lead nature walks and/or participate in educational tabling for students and groups. Contact Clark or Tamara (info below) for more information.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	April-September (days vary)
<b>The once a month weed terminators</b> – join our monthly group and help remove noxious weeds from our trail system. Contact Clark or Fay (info below) for more information.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	June-September (9 am-1 pm)
<b>Fall Family Fest</b> – assist with running fun family stations at our biggest event of the year. Contact Clark or Tamara (info below) for more information.	Minimum of 2 hrs. but 4 hrs. preferred	October 13 (12:30 – 4:30 pm)

**Contacts:** Clark Carlson-Thompson at [cclarkson-thompson@mt.gov](mailto:cclarkson-thompson@mt.gov), Fay Schwieger at [fay.schwieger@mt.gov](mailto:fay.schwieger@mt.gov), and Tamara at [rangerstation1212@gmail.com](mailto:rangerstation1212@gmail.com) or at (406) 727-1212.

### Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park

25 Lewis and Clark Caverns Road, Whitehall, MT 59759

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Campground host</b> – morning and evening campground duties with time off to explore the nearby rivers, hiking trails and other Montana sites. Includes full hookups for RVs. Contact Rhea (info below) for more information.	3 days on/3 days off	Memorial Day weekend through mid-July
<b>Cave sweep</b> – join a Wild Cave tour as the guide's assistant. Contact Rhea (info below) for more information.	Minimum of 3 hrs./day for 3 days, unless one has cave experience	June 17; June 24; July 22; July 29; August 5; August 7; August 12; August 14
<b>Visitor center docent</b> – help make a visitor's trip more enjoyable by orienting them to the park, answering questions, and assisting in a small gift shop. Contact Rhea or Jake (info below) for more information.	Minimum of 4 hrs./day and at least 2 days/month, unless one has park desk experience	June 15-22; July 8-26; August 27- Labor Day weekend
<b>Fee station attendant</b> – bring a chair, umbrella and book to enjoy a day at the campground fee station assisting visitors as they attend local music events. Contact Jake (info below) for more information.	Up to 6 hrs. per day	June 14 (2 pm -8 pm); June 17 (7 am-noon); August 10 (2 pm - 8 pm); and August 13 (7 am-noon)
<b>Cave restoration assistant</b> – learn about cave restoration by helping to address damage accidentally caused during public cave tours. Contact Jake (info below) for more information.	Up to 6 hrs., including training	September 29

**Contacts:** Rhea Armstrong at [rarmstrong@mt.gov](mailto:rarmstrong@mt.gov) or (406) 287-3541 and Jake Tholen at [jake.tholen@mt.gov](mailto:jake.tholen@mt.gov) or (406) 287-3541.

**Lost Creek State Park**

5750 Lost Creek Road, Anaconda, MT 59711

<b><u>Volunteer position and description</u></b>	<b><u>Length of time</u></b>	<b><u>Dates needed</u></b>
<b>Campground host</b> – come spend time at a scenic and remote park. You’ll regularly interact with campers and active day users, and be responsible for minor cleaning, collecting user fees, and informing the caretaker and park manager of issues that may need to be addressed.	4 hrs. per day for a minimum of one month	May 28-September 30

**Contact:** Tom Forwood at [tforwood@mt.gov](mailto:tforwood@mt.gov) or at (406) 287-3541.

**Makoshika State Park**

1301 Snyder Avenue, Glendive, MT 59330

<b><u>Volunteer position and description</u></b>	<b><u>Length of time</u></b>	<b><u>Dates needed</u></b>
<b>Education program assistant</b> – the park has implemented an exciting education curriculum that is attracting more students, and now staff need extra help during educational field trips in April and May.	8 hrs. per day	April 23-June 1
<b>Trail maintenance assistant</b> – due to annual erosion the park’s 11 designated trails are constantly in need of attention. Come help us fix, reconstruct, and make sure the trails are safe. Tools, gloves and uniforms will be provided. No experience necessary.	6 hrs. per day	May 1-September 30
<b>Campground host</b> – come help us by answering visitor questions, undertaking light maintenance duties, and helping with reservations. Full hook ups provided.	8 hrs. per day	May 21-September 14
<b>Visitor services assistant</b> – each year we receive nearly 100,000 visitors and so the need for more customer service support in the visitor center is necessary. The assistant will help answer visitor questions, hand out park maps, and assist with sales at our gift shop.	8 hrs. per day	May 21-September 14
<b>Buzzard Day volunteer</b> – come be part of the park's largest annual event by helping with set up duties, assisting with the road races, directing parking, or even helping to guide Mak the dinosaur around.	8 hrs. per day	June 8-9

**Contact:** Chris Dantic at [cdantic@mt.gov](mailto:cdantic@mt.gov) or at (406) 377-6256.

**Medicine Rocks State Park**

1141 Hwy. 7, Ekalaka, MT 59324

<b><u>Volunteer position and description</u></b>	<b><u>Length of time</u></b>	<b><u>Dates needed</u></b>
<b>Campground host</b> – this remote state park needs extra help with answering visitor questions, fee collection, and light maintenance duties. Full hook ups provided.	8 hrs. per day	May 21-September 10

**Contact:** Chris Dantic at [cdantic@mt.gov](mailto:cdantic@mt.gov) or at (406) 377-6256.

### Milltown State Park

1353 Deer Creek Road, Missoula, MT 59802

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Grand Opening assistant</b> – join us for the Confluence Area Grand Opening! Distribute marketing materials, help with set-up activities, direct traffic, or staff an information/volunteer table.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	June 23
<b>National Public Lands Day assistant</b> – help plant native vegetation, beautify, and maintain our trails. No experience is necessary.	4 hrs.	Sept. 29
<b>Land improvement assistant</b> – join us during our land improvement outings where you'll learn about planting, seeding, weeding, trash cleanup, trail work, and undertaking small maintenance tasks. If you have experience, we are also seeking small group leaders.	Meetings are bi-weekly and monthly for 2-4 hrs.	Spring-Fall
<b>Roving interpreter</b> – share your knowledge of history, culture, and/or nature while greeting and talking with visitors while walking our trails.	Varies	Ongoing
<b>Special event assistant</b> – provide support for special events and programs by distributing marketing materials, helping to set-up activities, directing traffic, or staffing an information table.	Minimum 2 hr. shift	Ongoing

**Contact:** Olivia Hollis at [Olivia.Hollis@mt.gov](mailto:Olivia.Hollis@mt.gov) or at (406) 542-5533.

### Pirogue Island State Park

Miles City, MT 59301

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Litter assistant</b> – come help keep our park clean by picking up litter in the parking area and on the island once a week.	4 hrs. per day	May 18- September 7

**Contact:** Chris Dantic at [cdantic@mt.gov](mailto:cdantic@mt.gov) or at (406) 377-6256.

### Rosebud Battlefield State Park

HC 42, Box 642, Busby, MT 59016

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Site steward</b> – site stewards regularly hike around the park to monitor existing archaeological sites for damage or changes. These volunteers may also assist with updates to historical and archaeological files, photo monitoring, GPS of sites, and conducting basic research. Experience is ideal, but not necessary.	Minimum 1 day per month, but more preferred	May-September or October
<b>Park/trail ambassador</b> – help greet visitors, answer questions, take visitor attendance, and provide basic interpretative talks.	Minimum 1 day per week	May-September or October

**Contact:** Raymond Schell at [Raymond.Schell@mt.gov](mailto:Raymond.Schell@mt.gov) or at (406) 757-2298.

### Spring Meadow Lake State Park

2715 Country Club Drive, Helena, MT 59601

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Small maintenance project assistance</b> – come help us with litter pickup, painting, trail maintenance, weed pulls, and other small projects.	From 2 hrs. up to a full day, and/or multiple days	Anytime
<b>Help with public education</b> – come help to deliver talks on proper lifejacket usage and fishing line disposal and share your appreciation for wildlife through our interpretative programs.	From 2 hrs. up to a full day, and/or multiple days	Anytime

**Contact:** Craig Putschat at [cputchat@mt.gov](mailto:cputchat@mt.gov) or at (406) 495-3270.

### Tongue River Reservoir State Park

290 Campers Point, Decker, MT 59025

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Campground host</b> – assist with campground duties, mow grass, and help with light maintenance projects. Water, electric, sewer, internet, and phone access available.	40 hours/week	May-September or October

**Contact:** Raymond Schell at [Raymond.Schell@mt.gov](mailto:Raymond.Schell@mt.gov) or at (406) 757-2298.

### Travelers' Rest State Park

6717 Highway 12 W, Lolo, MT 59487

<u>Volunteer position and description</u>	<u>Length of time</u>	<u>Dates needed</u>
<b>Roving interpreter</b> – interact informally with visitors as you walk around the park. Share knowledge about the Lewis and Clark campsite, local flora and fauna, the Native American history of the area, park rules, and more.	4 hr. shift	Ongoing
<b>Education program assistant</b> – learn the curriculum of a variety of field trips and lead school-aged children in place-based activities.	4-6 hr. shifts	Spring-Fall
<b>Special events volunteer</b> – help set-up activities and distribute event information; assist with directing traffic; and, help with marketing for indoor and outdoor activities such as lectures, community events, fundraisers, and festivals.	Varies	As needed
<b>Naturalist</b> – lead guided walks through the park or nature activities during special events. Help coordinate special events like park clean-up days.	4 hr. shift	June 1-October 1
<b>Maintenance worker</b> – help us keep the grounds and buildings of Travelers' Rest looking good and safe for visitors.	Varies	Year round

**Contact:** Vernon Carroll at [vcarroll@mt.gov](mailto:vcarroll@mt.gov) or at (406) 273-4253.