



Native Seed Garden Volunteer

Position Description

Purpose of Volunteer Service: To assist with maintaining the native seed gardens at Aurora West Forest Preserve in Aurora.

Supervisors: Restoration Technician, Volunteer Coordinator

Typical Assignment: Maintain the native seed garden through weeding, mulching, planting plugs and harvesting native seeds.

Qualifications/Skills:

- Interest in native plants, basic gardening practices and working outdoors
- Possess minimal plant identification skills and/or interest and willingness to learn them
- Ability to perform moderate physical activities, such as bending, kneeling and weeding by hand
- Capable of using general gardening tools, such as shovels, hand trowels, rakes and wheelbarrows
- Ability to work in varying weather conditions for up to three hours at a time during the spring, summer and fall



Expectations:

- Commit to native seed garden maintenance during the growing season (May-October), twice a month, during weekday afternoons
- Use small gardening tools and/or hands to manage weeds, mulch garden beds and walkways, install native plants, maintain watering system and harvest seed
- Work under the supervision of the Restoration Technician

Training:

Volunteers are required to attend one *Volunteer Orientation*. Additional ecological educational classes are listed in the quarterly newsletter, *The Tree Line*, which can be viewed online at <http://www.kaneforest.com/publications/treeLine.pdf>. Training will also be provided in the field with the Restoration Technician and/or the Volunteer Coordinator.