

PEOPLE ARE THE KEY TO HEALTHY FOREST PRESERVES!

GET ON THE PATH TO STEWARDSHIP

1

Stewardship Volunteer

Get outside and help restore healthy nature. Create a profile on the Forest Preserves of Cook County (FPCC) ONLINE VOLUNTEER SYSTEM (OVS). Use the OVS to find a stewardship site, track your hours, and sign up for classes. From there it is up to YOU!

2

BRUSH PILE BURN LEADER

Hang by the fire to ensure the brush pile is sited properly and burned safely.

• Brush Pile Burning Class

3

WORKDAY LEADER (WDL)

The WDL runs the stewardship day if the Steward is not available. Tools? Snacks? Forms? Phone calls? Work location?

• Managing Invasives Class
• Group Leadership Class
• Coaching by a Steward

4

APPRENTICE STEWARD

As an apprentice you'll study under experienced Stewards, gaining knowledge and necessary skills.

• Demonstrated competence as a WDL
• Recommendation by a Steward or FPCC staff

5

STEWARD

A Steward is able to develop the ecological management schedule, organizes and directs work of their fellow volunteers but knows their limits and consults others accordingly.

• Successful apprenticeship
• Pass the standard evaluation

6

SITE STEWARD

Each site can have up to two Site Stewards, who are the primary points of contact and are responsible for overseeing volunteer activities at their site.

BECOME A WORKDAY LEADER (WDL)

Check List:

- ___ 1. Managing Invasives Class*
- ___ 2. Group Leadership Class
- ___ 3. Brush Pile Burning Class*
- ___ 4. Coaching Series
 - ___ a. Find a Steward to be your coach.
 - ___ b. Observe your coach's workday process
 - ___ c. Observe 2 workdays at 2 different sites led by 2 different Stewards.
 - ___ d. Lead a workday at your home site.
 - ___ e. Lead a worday with a different Steward observing.
 - ___ f. Recommendation sent to FPCC for approval.

*Includes a classroom and field component to complete.

BECOME A STEWARD

Check List:

- ___ 1. Recommendation by a Steward or FPCC staff to become an Apprentice Steward.
- ___ 2. Identify a Steward to be your primary mentor.
- ___ 3. Participate in planning and implementation of ecological stewardship at a specific site.
- ___ 4. Participate in walks with FPCC regional ecology staff.
- ___ 5. Pass the standard evaluation.

The PATH TO STEWARDSHIP is program of increasing levels of knowledge and commitment to maintaining healthy forest preserves. Proceed to any place along the Path and you are making a valuable contribution. Regardless of your schedule, age, or fitness level there is a place for you!

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Go to: fotfp.org/ecological-restoration

- Full description of all the volunteer stewardship roles.
- Detailed check list for the WDL process
- Apprentice Steward evaluation forms



KEY FPCC CLASSES

- Brush Pile Burning
- Managing Invasives
- Group Leadership
- Chainsaw
- CPR/First Aid
- Brushcutter
- Pesticide License Preparation & Test (Herbicide License)



To register for a class, create a profile on the Forest Preserves of Cook County's Online Volunteer System: FPDCC.com/Volunteer



GET STARTED TODAY!

VISIT:
FPDCC.COM/VOLUNTEER



CALL: VOLUNTEER RESOURCES
800/870-3666

OTHER PLACES ON THE PATH TO STEWARDSHIP

SEED COLLECTION CREW LEADER
Every seed holds a promise. Unlock it by leading others in the vital task of native seed harvesting.

- Group Leadership Class
- Designated by Site Steward

WEED CONTROL CREW LEADER
Why wait until the next stewardship event to kill invasive plants? You can lead others in the task on your schedule.

- Group Leadership Class
- Designated by Site Steward

HERBICIDE LICENSE
Get your license and you can use herbicide to kill invasive plants.

- Pesticide License Class

CHAINSAWYER
Sometimes a handsaw just won't cut it. Work enough hours and the FPCC provides the necessary equipment.

- Chainsaw Class

MONITOR
Track plant, frog, or bird distribution, abundance and health. You can identify problems and find solutions to help our native animals and plants.

- Visit: HabitatProject.org

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