

GROUP VOLUNTEER INFORMATION - BANFF NATIONAL PARK

Discover Canada's first national park and be inspired - from the inside out!



There's a lot that goes on behind the scenes in protecting and presenting Banff National Park and conserving its habitat and wildlife while enhancing visitors' experiences. We invite you and your group to join us in these activities:

← **Volunteers Receive Safety Talk and Instructions at Litter Pick**

STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITY	GROUP SIZE*	SKILLS REQUIRED:	DURATION	DATES AVAILABLE
Wildlife Fence Check: Help ensure wildlife do not get onto the highway which is potentially harmful for people and animals!	Groups of 3-4, 12-55	Walk along the fence, both sides of the highway, inspect and fix minor issues, use GPS, record and report major issues	3 hours+	Specific dates June-October, weekdays only
Restoration Projects: Natural processes such as floods affect trails, day use areas, and other parts of the park; groups can help with restoration projects.	12-55	Cascade Ponds region including Cascade Pits, rebuilding facilities, pathways, fire-pits, removing flood debris, planting native plants, and much more!	3 hours+	National Environment Week (first week of June) and continuing throughout the summer
Litter Picks: Litter is not only bad for the scenery; it's bad for wildlife too. Locations: along roads, at popular viewpoints and day use areas (Banff, Yoho & Kootenay National Parks).	Groups of 3-4, 12-55	Bend, lift, walk, bag litter and recyclables/ refundables and leave on side of road for pick up.	3 hours	May (Legacy Trail) June (Trans Canada Highway) Other dates and times are negotiable – weekdays and mornings only
Weed Pulls: Improve critical habitats for native plants and animals by removing "alien" invasive plants. Various locations and species.	10-30	Bend, pull, use hand tools, bag invasives for pick up	3 hours	May - Sept
Raking, Seeding & Stick Stacking: Help our Fire and Forest Health Specialists with these pre- and post- burn activities.	12-55	Bend, lift, walk, use hand tools	3 hours	Spring and Fall, (dates and times are negotiable)
Facilities Stewardship Projects: e.g. Graffiti Removal - from the top of Sulphur Mountain to the valley-bottom ruins at	10-30	Brush, scrub, paint, reach, walk, tidy up	3 hours	Dates and times are negotiable

Bankhead, you can make a difference!				
Event Assistance: We can always use extra hands and hearts at park parties – ask for a schedule.	Variable	Variable – set up, take down, help at booths, do security, monitor for social and environmental impacts.	3-8 hours	e.g. Parks Day, Canada Day, Cultural and Recreational events
Hike & Report: Go for a hike and report on trail conditions, wildlife sightings, and general observations.	Variable	In small groups, in consultation with the info centre, choose an appropriate trail, hike and record your observations and report back.	2-8 hours	e.g. Trails close to town or farther afield (there are approx.. 1,500 kms of trails in the park)

****Groups must come with Group Leaders (one point of contact for The Leader of Volunteer Engagement and other Parks Canada staff to work with efficiently). Groups larger than 55 are subject to sub-division (to ensure minimum impact to the environment, Parks Canada may also work with local partners to co-deliver large group programs).***

Want to dig deeper...?

- INSURANCE:** Parks Canada’s Volunteer Program Insurance covers volunteers who sign a Group Volunteer Form. It is recommended that formal groups have insurance as well. We will require all participants’ names; and they must be between 18 and 90 years of age, (under 18, parental or guardian signatures are required, as is adult supervision / leadership).
- MATERIALS & TRAINING:** Will be supplied. Please wear comfortable closed-toed shoes suitable for walking and working in, and dress for the weather (layers are always good). Be prepared with snacks and water.
- COSTS:** There is no fee for participating in these stewardship activities, however donations are gratefully accepted (ask us how it works: you can specify what Banff National Park program you want your contribution to support, for example: wildlife research, habitat restoration, trail work, educational programs, etc.)
- PARK PRESENTATIONS:** It may be possible to arrange for a Parks Canada expert to speak to your group about Banff’s natural or cultural heritage, for a fee – please ask.
- PARK PASS:** All participants must have a valid park pass to enter the park. Park pass fees are used to protect the park and to provide visitor facilities and services, so please consider supporting Parks Canada in this way as well. Group rates are available [here](#).
- Due to increasing demand** in group volunteer engagement in the park, and other factors such as weather and wildlife, we will work hard to meet your requests but there is no guarantee. We recommend you have a back-up plan in case your volunteer activity is cancelled. We also reserve the right to prioritize group bookings based on our priorities and needs.



Contact Tina Barzo, Leader of Volunteer Engagement 403-760-1329 tina.barzo@pc.gc.ca

Space is limited – BOOK EARLY.

[GROUP APPLICATION FORM](#) – COMPLETE AND FAX TO 403-762-1551 or scan and email

Name of Group Representative: _____

Date: _____

Type of Group (circle all that apply): Informal Non Profit For Profit Canadian Participants

International Visitors Youth/Young Adult Urban Outdoor Club Other:

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Type or Name of Group: _____ Number in Group: _____

Preferred Date(s) to Volunteer: _____ Age Range: _____

Abilities in Group (check all that apply):

- Light Physical Duty – e.g. walking, taking notes, observing, speaking
- Medium Physical Duty – e.g. walking, bending, lifting light weight items, reaching
- Intense Physical Duty – e.g. hiking rugged terrain, lifting and using heavy tools
- Other (please comment): _____
- Check if your group is willing to join other individual or group volunteers in the activity

Preferred Activity (check all that apply):

- Fence Check
- Restoration
- Litter picks
- Weed Pulls
- Raking, Seeding, Stick Stacking
- Facilities Stewardship
- Events Assistance
- Hike and Report
- Other (please specify): _____

Other comments / special requests:

