



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division

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SUBJECT: Duluth Parks Division Offers New Volunteer Opportunities

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

Duluth Parks Division Offers New Volunteer Opportunities

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation division is seeking residents to fill new volunteer positions in Urban Forestry: Citizen Pruners and Community Outreach Volunteers. Volunteers will help the City maintain trees and educate the community about the benefits provided by our urban forest, particularly those related to global climate change. Both volunteer opportunities are part of the *Building Duluth's Community Resiliency Through Urban Trees Project*, funded by the MN Pollution Control Agency. Trainings are scheduled in the next week for interested residents.

Information and Training Sessions will be held on the following dates:

Citizen Pruners

Thursday, July 24, 2014 @ 5:00-6:00 pm at the Parks Conference Room (411 West First Street, City Hall – ground floor)

Community Outreach Volunteers

Monday, July 28, 2014 @ 5:00-6:00 pm at the Parks Conference Room (411 West First Street, City Hall – ground floor)

To RSVP for the trainings or to get a copy of the full volunteer position descriptions, please contact Shawna MullenEardley at smulleneardley@duluthmn.gov or call (218) 730-4311.

Citizen Pruners will be responsible for pruning off the suckers (sprouting that occurs at the base of trees) of boulevard trees. While not considered structural pruning, this type of pruning is important both for the health of the tree and aesthetic purposes. Suckers on boulevard trees can create a conflict for pedestrians using the sidewalk and reduce visibility of pedestrians for motor vehicle drivers. Citizen pruners can work at their own pace and on their own schedule, and are asked for a 10 hour time commitment to be fulfilled by mid-October.

Community Outreach Volunteers will be responsible for various types of educational presentations that could include tabling and handing out literature, or giving short PowerPoint presentations to community clubs, local organizations, and school groups about the benefits of our urban forest and what role trees play in reducing the effects of global climate change. Volunteers are asked to participate in 5 outreach events per year.

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