



Volunteer Position Title: R²ED Team Member

Department: Parks and Recreation

Schedule: Flexible, Minimum 3-5 hours a month

For more information, please contact:

Volunteer Coordinator: Cheryl Skafte

Phone: 218-730-4334 | Email: cskafte@duluthmn.gov

Overview

The City of Duluth is committed to managing the invasive plant populations located on public land, as well as educating the public about the threat that invasive plants pose to our native ecosystems. Through the City's Duluth Invaders service initiative program, the Rapid Response and Early Detection (R²ED) team will work together to support projects that support invasive species eradication, native habitat restoration and community education.

Purpose

The R²ED team will provide education about and the eradication of invasive species, as well as the restoration of native habitats through community based programs and opportunities.

Responsibilities

R²ED Team Members will:

- Monitor and remove invasive plants (as directed) at assigned location(s).
- Engage in special projects (i.e., Hartley Restoration efforts, Western Waterfront plant survey, etc) and outreach opportunities (as interested and available).
- Support and direct volunteer groups at removal and restoration events.
- Track and report invasive plant populations to Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN).
- Track and report service hours and work completed to the City of Duluth's Volunteer Program.

Qualifications

- Exceptional communication skills.
- Comfort using weed wench, Buckthorn Blasters (with RoundUp), handsaws, bow saws, loppers, EZject lance and other hand tools.
- Ability to work and lead in a team setting or independently with limited supervision.
- Interest in terrestrial invasive species.
- Interest in community education around the impact of buckthorn and other invasive plants.
- Able to navigate across uneven landscapes both on and off trail.
- Must be comfortable learning and using technology including handheld GPS systems, computers, cameras, and cell phone apps to report and mark invasives.

Knowledge, Skills, and Experience You Can Gain

- Knowledge about the invasive plant population in Duluth.
- Work towards contributing to a better and healthier community.
- Experience in data collection and GPS technology.
- Knowledge of Duluth's landscape, flora, and fauna.
- Leadership skills.



DULUTH PARKS

Fun Places, Great Spaces!

Volunteer Position Title: R²ED Team Member

Department: Parks and Recreation

Schedule: Flexible, Minimum 3-5 hours a month

For more information, please contact:

Volunteer Coordinator: Cheryl Skafte

Phone: 218-730-4334 | Email: cskaft@duluthmn.gov

Schedule and Training

Team members are asked to commit a minimum of 3-5 hours a month for a minimum of one year. All volunteers must attend a three-hour training (combination of classroom and hands-on training) on the Duluth Invaders service program, which will include information on plant identification, removal, tool use/safety, and disposal standards, along with information about up-and-coming invasive plants that are likely to appear in Duluth. Training will also cover the requirements for tracking and mapping new and existing invasive plant populations. The City will provide R²ED team members all necessary equipment for the program.

R²ED Team Trainings will occur twice a year. The Spring R²ED Team Cohort will be trained in April and begin service in May. The Fall R²ED Team Cohort will be trained in August and begin service in September. Applications must be received by March 31 or July 31 to be considered.

Background Check and Screening

Volunteers will be asked to consent to a background check as the opportunity does ask R²ED Team members to direct and lead volunteers in removal and restoration activities.