

Volunteer Service Project Proposal Form

Historic Rivers Chapter



Project proposals should be completed by partner organizations or chapter members and submitted to the chapter's Volunteer Service Project for review. Projects will be evaluated for relevance to program mission and objectives. Projects and activities implemented without approval are not considered Master Naturalist activities, count towards required service hours, and do not carry the liability shield.

Complete each of the following areas described on the left by typing the answer in the cell to the right:

1. Project Name: (for recording purposes)	Colonial National Historical Park Invasive Species Control and General Maintenance -- formerly "Removal of Nonnative Invasives with National Park Service Staff, " which was submitted by Kathy Mestayer. By her agreement, this proposal subsumes and includes that one, and, if approved, becomes an on-going weekly project (rather than an occasional one), supervised by a local NPS staff member from the Colonial National Historical Park (rather than someone from the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Plant Management Team based in Luray, VA.)	
2. Submitted by:	Name: Angier Brock Phone and/or e-mail: abrock@vcu.edu , (757) 234-6170	
3. Project Chair:	Name: Angier Brock Phone and/or e-mail: abrock@vcu.edu , (757) 234-6170	
4. Project Type: Place an "X" in the appropriate cell to choose your project type.		Education/Outreach: related to educating the public. Examples: being a volunteer interpreter at a park, developing an interpretive trail, being a guest presenter on a natural resource topic in a classroom or garden club, staffing presentations at fairs, booths, etc, training other non-VMN volunteers or MNS-in-training.
		Citizen science/monitoring: data collection, monitoring, biological inventories contributing to the management of local natural resources or other research-oriented activities. Examples: collecting data for wildlife mapping, VA frog and toad calling survey, bird counts, conducting water quality monitoring
	X	Stewardship: improve habitat and other natural resources or improve the ability of the public to access these resources, dedicated to management of natural resources within our local community. Examples: maintaining trails at local state and county parks, pulling out non-native invasives or planting natives at a nature center, restoring bird-friendly habitat at a local park.
		Administrative: chapter organization, volunteer development, training and other management roles. Examples: leading general membership meetings, planning and supervising VMN training classes, working on the chapter newsletter, attending state meetings on behalf of the chapter.
		None of the above: project will not be approved
5. Is this project available to <u>all</u> members of the VMN?	X	Yes, continue to 6
		No, the project may not be approved
Project Partnerships		
6. Is this project part of a statewide project? (VA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, VA Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries, VA Dept		Yes, proceed to 8
		No, proceed to 7

Virginia Master Naturalist programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer

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of Forestry, VA Cooperative Extension, VA Museum of Natural History)	
7. Is this project specific to a local partner? the College of William & Mary, VIMS, VA Nature Conservancy (local chapter) Williamsburg/JCC Schools, John Clayton Chapter of the Native Plant Society or other potential partners	X Yes, the US Park Service – Colonial National Historical Park.
8. Project Partner(s)	Partner organization: Colonial National Historical Park Contact Name: Dorothy Geyer, Resource Management Phone and/or e-mail: (757) 898-2433, Dorothy_Geyer@nps.gov
8. Project Partner(s)	Partner organization: Contact Name: Phone and/or e-mail:
Project Specifics	
9. Description: What does the project entail? What will participants actually do? Give as much as detail as possible.	Invasive species control and on-going general maintenance of Park Service properties at Jamestown, Yorktown, and along the Colonial Parkway. Invasive species control will focus on wisteria, stiltgrass, phragmites, and privet. Other general maintenance of Park Service properties will vary, but may include pruning, mulching, weeding, etc.
10. Location: Where will the project take place?	Location TBA each week, as above in 9. Dorothy Geyer, who determines the work to be done each week and who supervises the work, will advise.
11. Timeframe: What is the timeframe? Be as specific as possible: dates, times, ongoing, seasonal, etc.	Ongoing, most Mondays 9-12 from late winter (Jan/Feb) through late fall (Nov/early Dec).
12. Experience needed: What, if any, prior experience or expertise is required or preferred?	Minor familiarity with plants.
13. Training: If training is needed, who will provide it?	Dorothy Geyer or other NPS personnel.
14. Safety Hazards and protocols: What hazards might volunteers encounter? Describe your safety plan.	Hazards: minor cuts, scrapes, abrasions from pruning, etc. Also tripping hazards, especially around wisteria. Also, other typical out-door hazards – bug bites, including tick bites; exposure to poison ivy; sunburn. Snake bites? Possible though not likely. The NPS staff person has a first aid kit for minor injuries, and also a cell phone. NPS protocol for serious injuries is to call 911 first and then a Park Ranger. The NPS has a form for volunteers to sign. When spraying is Involved, NPS will supply other protective gear in accordance with

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	<p>manufacturer's instructions and their training as licensed herbicide applicators. Specific questions can be addressed to NPS staff prior to each work session.</p> <p>Participants should wear appropriate protect clothing such as long-sleeved shirt, hat, sturdy shoes, socks. Participants should bring their own water and sunscreen, If needed.</p>
<p>15. Resources provided: Describe resources provided for the volunteers.</p>	<p>Tools are provided (rakes, shovels, clippers). Also provided: gloves, bug spray, though participants may wish to bring their own insect repellent and gloves. From time to time, they may be asked to bring an extra rake, etc.</p>
<p>16. Resources needed: Describe resources that volunteers must provide and/or that the chapter must provide and cost of the resources.</p>	<p>Volunteers should bring their own water, especially on very warm days. (And, as stated in #15 above, volunteers may want to bring their own gloves, and are welcome to bring their own tools.)</p>
<p>17. Are minors involved? If so, all volunteers must be trained in working with youth and the Above Suspicion policy.</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>18. Project Evaluation: How will the project be evaluated both during implementation and after completion?</p>	<p>On-going, by National Park Service staff, who report projects and results.</p>
<p>19: How will the Virginia Master Naturalist program be recognized?</p>	<p>VMN chapter should contact Dorothy Geyer if documentation is needed for the state or for other purposes. NPS also has various ways of recognizing regular volunteers.</p>

For VSP Committee use only:	
Project Approved?	
Date:	
Comments:	