



Golden Gate National Parks | Families and Youth Policy Guidelines

All ages and families are encouraged to participate at a number of our volunteer programs. Our park volunteer programs are designed to provide a rewarding and safe volunteer experience, but when working with families and young volunteers we need active adult guardian/chaperone participation to be successful.

In order to clarify expectations, and make this the best experience for everyone involved – positive, productive, and meaningful – we have outlined some guidelines below.

Guidelines:

1. The park volunteer programs are not drop-off programs:
 - Adult Guardian/Chaperone(s) required for volunteers under the age of 15 (1:7 adult:youth ratio).
 - Children under the age of 7 must have a dedicated adult guardian/chaperone that can help them participate.
 - Young children who cannot participate in the work are welcome to attend, but we ask that they do not become a distraction to other volunteers.
2. Adult Guardians/Chaperones are expected to act as positive role models and to help their young volunteers participate in a safe and constructive way:
 - Participate fully in the volunteer program
 - Demonstrate safe tool use
 - Politely work with others
 - Respect the sensitive habitat
 - Provide motivation and encouragement

Volunteer Agreement Form:

Volunteers under the age of 18 must have the parent/guardian approval section signed. If your child will be attending a program without a parent or guardian, please reach out to your project leader in advance to obtain a copy of the form to sign and send with your child. If you are over 18, forms will be available to sign on-site.

Be Prepared and Dress Appropriately!

What to Bring:

- Bring a reusable water bottle. We'll have water stations for refills.
- If you have a pair of favorite gloves, feel free to bring those.
- All necessary tools, supplies, gloves, and training will be provided.

What to Wear:

- Wear clothes that can get dirty. Long pants and closed-toe shoes are required.
- Bring layers for changing weather and rain gear if necessary.
- Bring a hat.
- Wear sunscreen.