## **GANARASKA FOREST VOLUNTEERS**Group Trail Maintenance Application





### **Help Support the Ganaraska Forest & Recreational Opportunities**

Looking for a volunteer activity for your organization or business to participate in? If yes, consider the **Ganaraska Forest Volunteer Trail Maintenance Program**.

#### What Tasks Will Volunteers Undertake?

Trail maintenance tasks consist of the following and specific methods will be provided:

- Removing trees, encroaching vegetation and debris from trails.
- · Removing invasive plant species.
- · Picking up litter.
- · Reporting trail conditions to GRCA staff.
- Communicating Ganaraska Forest Rules to the group's membership and volunteers.

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) is looking for volunteer organizations or businesses to conduct trail maintenance in the Ganaraska Forest.

This opportunity will not only support the GRCA in maintaining hundreds of kilometres of multi-use trails in the Ganaraska Forest but is also a great way for groups to support the Ganaraska Forest through volunteerism.

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If approved, each *Volunteer Trail Maintenance Agreement* is valid for one year and can be considered for renewal. A minimum of 35 hours of volunteer time is required and volunteer days are coordinated with the GRCA.

## What Are the *Trail Maintenance Program* Eligibility Requirements?

To be eligible, the volunteer group must, at a minimum:

- Be responsible for the supervision and conduct of volunteers.
- Ensure volunteers have a Ganaraska Forest membership or day pass.
- · Adhere to all Ganaraska Forest rules, including seasonal/use closures.
- Provide a liability insurance certificate (minimum \$5-million) naming the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority as an additional insured party.
- Carry out activities in a safe manner, following all required local, Provincial and Federal health and safety regulations.
- Adhere to the GRCA Agreement and requirements and follow maintenance program procedures.



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Are Volunteer Activities Supervised By The GRCA? Volunteer activities are directly supervised by the group's volunteer lead. GRCA staff will provide direction and may attend volunteer events and support volunteer activities.

The volunteer group or organization is required to have a volunteer lead(s) that will:

- · Be the main contact with GRCA staff.
- Take responsibility for all volunteer activities / work.
- Supervise volunteer activities / events to ensure all requirements of the *Trail Maintenance* Program and Agreement are followed.
- Ensure that all volunteers have a day pass or membership to the Ganaraska Forest.
- Communicate with GRCA staff when volunteer activities are occurring.
- · Report information to the GRCA.

### What Are The Volunteer Activity Reporting Requirements?

- The volunteer lead must inform the GRCA, one week in advance, the volunteer times, days, locations and activities.
- Any incidents must be reported using a *GRCA Incident Reporting Form* within 24 hours.
- The volunteer lead must provide a year end report to the GRCA.

## What Equipment Can Be Used Under The Trail Maintenance Agreement?

The volunteer group / volunteers are required to supply their own tools and personal protection equipment. Hand tools can be used to accomplish many tasks.

Power tools may be approved for use, depending on the type of equipment, if the volunteer group has policies and practices in place and volunteers can provide required certifications, as well as all necessary personal protective equipment that is current, properly fitted and in good working order.

#### How Can Volunteers Access The Work Location?

Volunteers can access the site on foot, hoof or wheel but must follow Ganaraska Forest rules regarding motorized and non-motorized areas of the Forest. Volunteers must have a valid Ganaraska Forest Membership or Day Pass. Parking lots can be used as the starting location for volunteers or other GRCA approved areas.

#### Is There Any Compensation?

Participation is voluntary and no compensation or discount is provided to volunteers.

If your group would like to apply, please complete this application and send it to: <a href="mailto:volunteer@grca.on.ca">volunteer@grca.on.ca</a>. Once reviewed, the GRCA will contact you to discuss further and arrange an interview.



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### **Please Complete Your Application**

Address:	
Town/City:	Postal Code:
Phone #:	Website:
What recreational use group or organization	
Full Name:	inteer Lead For the frammanitenance Application
Group / Organization	Role:
Phone #:	Email:
Area(s) You Wish T	o Volunteer In the Forest
West Forest	Central Forest East Forest
	Double Track Single Track Ski Trail o attach longer explanations to this document, as space is limited. o or organization want to volunteer in trail maintenance?
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Please feel free to Why does your group What expertise does	or organization want to volunteer in trail maintenance?  your volunteer group have in carrying out the activities?  and procedures in place to ensure volunteers undertake activities safely?