



**CONSERVATION
LEGACY**



PLEASE NOTE: Applicants will need to apply here: <https://form.jotform.com/StewardsIPP/cva-member-application-winter-2025> Application form requires a resume, cover letter, professional references.

Community Volunteer Ambassador – Missouri National Recreational River

Location: Yankton, SD

Position Details:

Stewards Individual Placements, a program of Conservation Legacy, provides individuals with service and career opportunities to strengthen communities and preserve our natural resources. The Community Volunteer Ambassador (CVA) Program combines the strength of a national leader in conservation service with the National Park Service to train a diverse group of emerging leaders to assist park units in building lasting connections to communities.

The CVA position will continue to help manage and expand the Volunteer Program at Missouri National Recreational River by continuing to work with park divisions to assess VIP needs, attend events and programs to recruit volunteers, handle and organize paperwork for volunteers at all VIP events, gather and organize volunteer statistics, and help manage the social media sites for the park to encourage outreach and stewardship. The CVA will also work to strengthen existing partnerships with local agencies, the friend's group, JNPA, and tribal partners and will reach out to develop new partnerships as well. This position will also help with other interpretive operations no more than 20% of the time.

Site Description

This position is located at Missouri National Recreational River in Yankton, South Dakota. Located in the Great Plains, Missouri National Recreational encompasses 98 miles of the Missouri River along the South Dakota and Nebraska border. The park is split into two districts, the 39-Mile District starts just below Fort Randall Dam near Pickstown, SD and stretches to Running Water, South Dakota; this district also includes the last 8 miles of Verdigre Creek and the lower 20 miles of the Niobrara River. The 59-Mile District starts just below Gavin's Point Dam and runs to Ponca State Park.

Missouri National Recreational River's volunteer program was slim before our current CVA started here. We have two main volunteer events that have taken place for several years - a River Cleanup and a Watershed School Festival. With the help of our CVA intern, we now have a VIP policy, service descriptions, and JHAs. We have added two new annual volunteer events and brought on some VIPs to help with interpretive programming. We are excited to see the growth that has already happened and the growth that will continue into the future.

Position Responsibilities:

- Support and coordinate existing volunteer program at MNRR updating and creating new materials as necessary
- Attend community events with Mobile Ranger Station to advertise and recruit volunteers
- Recruit and onboard volunteers using Volunteer.gov
- Help in the orientation and training of volunteers and seasonal park staff
- Coordinate volunteer schedule and record hours
- Help with ordering supplies and tools needed for program
- Assist in planning of special events, take a lead in planning VIP specific events
- Help develop and/or improve outreach materials for the park and VIP program
- Create social media posts to increase outreach and make volunteer opportunities more available and known
- Assist in interpretive programming such as kayak clinics, guided walks, evening programs, and pop-ups

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- Correspond with visitors, volunteers, and partners through many modes of communication: email, phone calls, in-person, etc.
- Coordinate Volunteer Appreciation gifts and recognition

CVA Minimum Requirements:

- People skills: ability to cold-contact people and organizations, identify and communicate shared goals, and build relationships through respectful persistence. This position is devoted to partnerships with many organizations and individuals. The candidate must demonstrate an interest and capacity to network and communicate with a variety of partners and organizations with respect and humility.
- Be willing to work weekends and occasional odd hours.
- Have a positive, can-do attitude and the ability to work under pressure.
- Understand and support the mission of the National Park Service and the volunteer program.
- Have an interest in assisting volunteers and interns from diverse backgrounds, being courteous, professional, patient, and respectful always
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Superior organizational skills for tracking multiple projects, partner contacts, and planning logistics
- Self-directed and independent work ethic
- Must be over 21 years old or have had license for at least 3 years to be insured in this position
- Participate in the CVA National Early Service Training in March 2025 (date TBD)
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- Be 18-30 years old at time of service (veterans up to 35 years old)
- High School Diploma/GED
- Pass fingerprint-based FBI, state criminal, and a national sex offender checks.
- Be able to provide proof of a driver's license and complete a MVR check
- Must be over 21 years old or have had license for at least 3 years to be insured in this position

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience working with diverse groups of people from various backgrounds
- Strong computer skills including Microsoft Teams, Canva, Google Slides, excel spread sheets, and PowerPoint
- Comfortable working in different Social Media Platforms
- Editing software, such as ADOBE, Light Room, and Photoshop
- Experience speaking publicly and in front of medium to large crowds
- Excellent time management and professionalism

Additional Information:

During the summer, the schedule will include work on weekends and evenings, but during the winter season the CVA will have weekends off and only a rare occasion of evening work.

Opportunities to collaborate with park partners in the area.

Living and working in a thriving small-town community.

Benefits:

- **\$600/week living stipend.**
- \$150/week in housing allowance, if housing is not provided.
- Limited health care/childcare benefits
- The position is eligible for an AmeriCorps Education Award \$7,395.00 (pre-tax) upon successful completion of the program



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- \$1,200 in Professional Development funds for training, networking, conferences, and/or travel.
- Networking opportunities within the National Park Service and partnering organizations
- Public Land Corps Hiring Authority
- Week-long in-person training at NPS site with travel/meal expenses covered.

How to Apply

Please visit [Community Volunteer Ambassador \(cva.legacy.org\)](https://cva.legacy.org) to review "Member Positions" by region and find instructions on how to apply.

The CVA position will start on **Tuesday, January 21**, and run for 48 weeks until Friday, December 19, 2025.

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Please ensure your cover letter addresses how your experience aligns with the CVA program, your experience working with diverse populations, and position details for this park/position. You may submit one application for multiple positions by selecting all sites you are interested in.

Applications Deadline

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. First review will occur in early November. Final deadline is **Sunday, December 8, 2024**.

For Application Questions:

Please contact James Gasaway, Program Director at jgasaway@conservationlegacy.org

Conservation Legacy is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to hiring a breadth of diverse professionals and encourage members of diverse groups to apply. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, political affiliation, protected veteran status, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. We also consider qualified applicants regardless of criminal histories, consistent with legal requirements. If you need assistance and/or a reasonable accommodation due to a disability during application or recruiting process, please send a request to the hiring manager.