



Community Volunteer Ambassador – De Soto National Memorial

Location: Bradenton, FL

Position Details:

Stewards Individual Placements 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 local communities.

Do you want to work for the National Park Service? This unique opportunity will provide you with career development, and mentorship experience for a future in the National Park Service. You will assist the park in establish lasting partnerships with the community and recruiting the next generation of volunteers.

Site Description:

De Soto National Memorial is a 28-acre park on the gulf coast of Florida. It is in an urban setting at the southern portion of Tampa Bay. The park does year round programming like living history, day camps, kayak tours, and fishing clinics. The volunteer program assists the park staff in these activities as well as provide support for the park's visitor services and maintenance division. Since COVIS-19 the park's volunteer program has taken a major hit with 75% of our volunteer staff resigning.

Position Responsibilities:

- **Community Outreach:** establish connections with new and existing community partners.
- **Community Youth Ambassadors:** a youth mentorship program for local high school age students. The CVA will assist park staff in creating new guidelines and recruitment strategies for this program.
- **De Soto VIP program recruitment:** Work with park staff to create new methods and strategies to reach the local population and recruit next generation volunteers.
- **Career Development:** The CVA will shadow park staff and learn about park programming, visitor relations, and attain hands on experience in several major projects (Museum exhibit design, Long Range Interpretive Plan, Park Wayside redesign project)

CVA Minimum Requirements:

- Participate in the CVA National Early Service Training in fall/winter 2022/2023
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident
- Be 18-30 years old at time of service (veterans up to 35 years old)
- Applicant must be a team player. The De Sot National Memorial has a small staff that works together to accomplish its mission.
- Innovative and outside the box thinker. The Park thrives on new ideas, and takes all new ideas under consideration.
- Outgoing, and friendly. The CVA will be the face of the park when meeting new and existing partners. They will also represent the park in meeting with these partners as well in recruiting volunteers.
- Submit proof of a Driver's License and undergo a Federal Background Check, upon selection
- US Citizen, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the United States



Preferred Qualifications:

- Public Speaking
- Social Media experience.
- Computer software experience in: Adobe products (Photoshop, Premier, In-Design) , CANVA, Microsoft products (Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher)
- Public engagement
- Community outreach
- Community Activism
- Volunteer experience

Additional Information:

De Soto National Memorial is a small park in an urban setting. The entire park staff consist of only 8 full time staff. The CVA will have many opportunities to gain valuable experiences in a huge number of skills and programming. The park staff will also assist the CVA in creating and refining a government resume, which is a key part to being hired in the federal government and the NPS.

There is no on-site housing available. The park will do its best to assist the CVA in locating housing. De Soto National is a satellite park of Canaveral National Seashore and the CVA is able to get opportunities to assist this park with projects if the need arises.

Benefits:

- CVA will receive a weekly stipend of **\$500** (additional \$65/week, if housing is not provided)
- Limited health care/childcare benefits
- The position is eligible for an AmeriCorps Education Award \$6,345.00 (pre-tax) upon successful completion of the program
- Professional development funds
- Networking opportunities within the National Park Service and partnering organizations
- Public Land Corps Hiring Authority

How to Apply

The CVA position will start on **Monday, September 12th, 2022**, and run for 50 weeks until Friday, August 25th 2023. Applicants will need to apply here: [CVA Member Application 2022-2023 \(September Cohort\) \(jotform.com\)](https://www.jotform.com) and attach a cover.

Please ensure your cover letter addresses the specific requirements and position details for this park. You may submit one application for multiple positions by selecting all sites and attaching the necessary cover letters.

Applications Deadline

Please submit your application by Friday, July 15th to ensure full consideration.

For Application Questions:

Please contact Geoff Elliot, Program Director at gelliot@conservationlegacy.org

Stewards Individual Placements Program does not and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all.