



Community Volunteer Ambassador – Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Location: Boulder City, NV

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.

The Lake Mead National Recreation Area's Community Volunteer Ambassador (CVA) position will be part of a team responsible for the overall management of the park's well established volunteer program. The CVA will be assisting with program administration, community outreach and volunteer recruitment, and event management. The Ambassador will be part of a team to engage the community and other park constituents in volunteer service and community engagement programs and activities. The CVA will bring a fresh perspective to the team and provide input in the program's operations by building capacity for the park. Leadership and developmental training opportunities will be provided throughout the Ambassador's tenure with the park.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area is a large park that covers over 1.5 million acres and is situated in two states, Nevada, and Arizona. The Ambassador will work with the Volunteer Program Office staff to continue to develop and execute the park's volunteer work plan. The Ambassador will help support and increase community learning experiences through southern Nevada and western Arizona.

The service projects and activities developed and/or implemented by the Ambassador will focus on increasing the number of people volunteering through projects that include both national events (i.e. National Trails Day, National Public Lands, Martin L. King Day, Junior Ranger Day, and Day of Service, etc.) and local events where a service component could easily be incorporated. This would include (but not be limited to) possibilities such as recurring group service opportunities like litter removal, landscape maintenance, habitat and vegetation management, and watershed restoration.

Site Description:

Located just 30 minutes from Las Vegas, Lake Mead National Recreation Area is a premier destination for millions of tourists and locals looking for a mix of adventure and natural beauty. More than 6 million people visit Lake Mead each year, making it the sixth most-visited unit of the National Park System. At 1.5 million acres, the park is also the third largest area of the National Park Service, outside Alaska.

The two lakes provide 290 square miles of water on which to boat, fish, swim, water ski, sail and sun. Lake Mead is America's largest reservoir with depths surpassing 500 feet. Nearly 87 percent of the 1.5-million-acre area of Lake Mead is land, containing a wealth of natural and cultural resources in a setting of rugged mountains, desert washes, sheer cliffs, and colorful soils and rock formations.

Created by Act of Congress in 1964 as the nation's first national recreation area, Lake Mead stretches along
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CONSERVATION LEGACY



nearly 140 miles of the old Colorado River channel between Nevada and Arizona. It includes both Lake Mead, created by Hoover Dam, and Lake Mohave, created by Davis Dam.

Lake Mead's temperatures range from the low 40's in the winter to 118 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer. Fall and spring seasons have gorgeous weather conditions and are best suited for engaging the public to come and enjoy the many wonders the park has to offer through volunteer opportunities.

Lake Mead's volunteer program is well established. In pre-COVID years, we had over 3500 volunteers donating over 100,000 hours to the park. Recently, our volunteer numbers are lower. We are trying to regain our footing in the surrounding communities to promote our volunteer program. We have approximately 750 dedicated volunteers donating 50,000 hours to the park. The CVA working at the park will gain valuable experience in how a volunteer program can benefit the park through building capacity to accomplish high priority projects.

The parks have excellent internal relationships among the staff, and work is collaborative among the parks' small staffs. Everyone is willing to assist and mentor others when possible. Our newest intern recently stated that it's a fun place to work.

Position Responsibilities:

- Volunteer event management - Assist with and lead in all aspects of volunteer events management - event planning, pre- and post-event logistics, communication with participants, overseeing support event assistants, administrative responsibilities, determining site location, and hosting the volunteer event.
 - Assist with major events days such as National Public Lands Day, the Great American Cleanup, Veteran's Day project, Make a Difference Day, and other identified events.
 - Plan, host and oversee at least 8 small scale events with groups of 10-25 people
 - Work with and lead event assistants to facilitate volunteer events
- Volunteer Program Management –
 - Assist with the co-management of the Adopt-A-Spot program. CVA will be working to recruit and train volunteers while overseeing the Adopt-A-Spot program.
 - Occasionally serve as a deckhand on the OZ boat. Work with community volunteers to clean up areas of the park that are not accessible by land and only water. Serve as the NPS representative on board the boat to greet, educate, oversee safety considerations, and coordinate volunteer service project.
 - Assist with the bi-annual volunteer recognition events – Fall 2022 and Spring 2023
 - Develop social media posts to promote the volunteer program and recognize groups that accomplished work at events
 - Assist the Assistant Coordinator with multimedia projects which includes developing text for printed materials
 - Assist with training of volunteers
- CVA Outreach Project - Work with the VIP Program Office staff to develop an outreach/recruitment strategy for events and operations.
 - Review current and develop a Recruitment and Outreach strategy to engage new audiences, especially, underserved, and underrepresented groups.
 - Attend and recruit at identified outreach opportunities at local universities, businesses, and



community groups.

- Identify new outreach opportunities, connect, attend, and evaluate participation for the future opportunities in the surrounding communities.
- Increase awareness in gateway communities to promote our volunteer opportunities
- Work with Assistant Coordinator to develop text for recruitment materials

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)
- College degree
- Experience with Microsoft products
- Willing to work as a team and independently
- Ability to work with others, especially those from diverse populations
- Enjoy working in the outdoors 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:

The CVA intern will need to be able to balance working in a team environment when putting on volunteer events and be able to transition to work independently when providing administrative support to the various programs. The person must be organized, flexible and able to oversee multiple projects.

The CVA will need to possess the following transferable skills:

- Managing large and small groups of people to accomplish priority work.
- Excellent communication skills - Comfortable to speak in front of groups of people (20 to 100 people) to effectively communicate the safety hazards the volunteers may encounter and how to mitigate those hazards through onsite briefings.
- Bi-lingual
- Experience working with diverse populations
- Compose accurate reports that will brief team members on what will be happening throughout the volunteer event.
- Developing a positive relationship with community volunteers so they will come again to another volunteer event.
- Excellent problem-solving skills, so to anticipate problems before they occur.
- Detailed oriented
- Working in a collaborative team environment.
- Seeking opportunities for professional development in a safe and supportive environment. Making a mistake is not seen as a failure, but an opportunity to learn and grow.
- Enjoy working in a natural setting, especially around water



Additional Information:

- Work schedule will be Tuesday through Saturday, 8 AM to 4:30 PM with most holidays off.
- Government housing provided - Housing accommodations are located within the park with a beautiful view of the lake - sun rising in the mornings over the lake and the sun setting on the mountains in the west behind the house. The accommodation is shared with another park employee or intern. The furnished house is a two-bedroom home with central air and heat. Utilities (electric, water, and sewer) are paid by the park.
- The CVA will need their own transportation to and from the residence to the office, located in Boulder City, NV which is approximately 8 miles away. Boulder City has two grocery stores, many restaurants, a library, several gas stations, and other businesses (ie: banks, gyms, Starbucks, etc.). During specific times of the year, various free art festivals and fairs come to Boulder City in which the CVA could attend if they are interested.
- Within a 30 to 60-minute drive from the CVA's residence, the CVA can find many hiking trails both in the park and outside the park. The area is surrounded by city, county, state, and other federal public lands. The CVA can also find rock climbing facilities, gyms, major shopping centers and night life within an hour's drive from their home. Within a half a day's drive, the CVA could visit other National Parks such as Zion, Grand Canyon, Death Valley and more.

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 \(September Cohort\) \(jotform.com\)](#) 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.