Seattle Urban Nature Guide

Volunteer with Seattle Parks & Recreation

Become a SUNGuide!

Seattle Urban Nature Guides enhance, promote and foster appreciation of nature by connecting families and students with their Seattle parklands and providing educational opportunities.

As a SUNGuide, you will:

- **Develop Job Skills** such as public speaking, education and group engagement techniques
- **Enjoy** a community of fellow volunteers and city staff
- **Receive FREE Training** on environmental education techniques and equity concepts to connect with a wide variety of audiences
- **Lead hands on learning experiences** in a variety of settings from playgrounds to beaches
- **Familiarize yourself** with Seattle's diverse parklands while helping others do the same

Commitment:

- Lead a minimum of 10 education events each year
- Lead a minimum of 3 education events between May-August for admission into Fall Training 2026
- Complete all required trainings.
  - 4 in-person on mostly Saturdays in March and April (8:45am – 2:30pm) and 2 evening virtual trainings
- Be available during the week to lead school field trips, or weekends and evenings for community and public programs

Locations:
- Trainings, programs, and events will take place at parklands throughout Seattle

Service Days & Hours:
- Tuesday-Sunday
- Programs and events are an average of 2 hours

To Apply

Please review the position description and apply online using the link below!

https://tinyurl.com/SUNGuide2019

Questions? Please email PKSNatureFieldTrips@seattle.gov

SEATTLE URBAN NATURE GUIDE

seattle.gov/parks/volunteer/environmental-education-volunteers

Seattle
Parks & Recreation

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Seattle Urban Nature Guides enhance, promote and foster appreciation of nature by connecting families and students with their Seattle parklands and by providing educational opportunities.

Programs may take place in areas of rough terrain.

Duties:
- Complete spring training; highly recommended to attend fall training.
- Guide and support a minimum of 8 interpretive and educational programs with school and/or community groups per year.
- Communicate regularly with city staff for scheduling, upcoming events, and other details.

Benefits:
- Explore the natural and cultural history of parklands within Seattle.
- Develop and hone communication, education, and group engagement skills.
- Increase knowledge and understanding of equity.
- Flexibility of choosing your own volunteer shifts.
- Share fun, fellowship and community with others who enjoy nature and the appreciation of parklands throughout Seattle.

Requirements:
- Complete a background check.
- Must be 18 years or older.
- Attend **one** orientation and **all** training days.
- Observations of experienced SUNGuides or city education staff prior to solo leading.
- Guide or assist with 10 programs or events by the spring of 2027.
- Guide 3 programs or events by fall of 2026 (for admission into fall training).
- Enjoy working with a diverse range of audiences.
- Follow policies and procedures of the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation.
- Willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Provide your own mode of transportation to event locations. If driving as a volunteer, must have proof of auto insurance, a driver's license and complete a defensive driving course. *Note: you are NOT required to drive as a volunteer*

Training:
- 1 on-line orientation session.
- 4 days of field training and 2 virtual sessions.
  - Saturday   3/21 – 8:45am-2:30pm
  - Saturday   3/28 – 8:45am-2:30pm
  - Wednesday 4/1 – 6:30pm-8:00pm *Virtual Webex*
  - Saturday   4/11 – 7:45am-1:30pm
  - Thursday   4/16 – 6:30pm-8:00pm *Virtual Webex*
  - Sunday   4/19 – 8:45am-2:30pm
- Program observations of experienced SUNGuides or city education staff prior to solo leading.

Scan here to learn more!

Continuing Education Sessions:
- Skill-building and natural history classes offered throughout the year.

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