

Green Mountain Club Volunteer Trail Adopter



Position Title: Volunteer Trail Adopter

Department: Field Programs

Reports to: Volunteer & Education Coordinator, Lorne Currier; Director of Field Programs, Keegan Tierney

Type: Regular, Flexible

Application Deadline: Open, as needed

Job Purpose & Summary

Volunteer trail adoption is a critical tool for maintaining the nearly 500-miles of trail which make up the Long Trail, Appalachian Trail, Side Trails and Northeast Kingdom Trails. Volunteer trail adoption is the commitment by GMC volunteers to perform, regular, professional and quality trail maintenance on their assigned portion of trail. These trail maintenance trips are to be made at least three times per year and more trips may be necessary depending on the state of the trail. Trail adopter are responsible for the general upkeep of their portion of trail and are the Green Mountain Club's consistent on-the-ground resource for information on their portion of trail. Combined with staff caretakers, section volunteers and volunteer group service trips, trail adopters work to keep the Long Trail up to standards during the hiking season.

Primary Duties & Responsibilities:

- Perform basic trail maintenance which includes:
 1. Cleaning out leaves and debris in drainage structures
 2. Keeping the trail clear of blowdowns, brush and annual vegetation
 3. Maintaining well-defined paint blazes
 4. Blocking in unofficial trails and campsites with brush
 5. Making an assessment of the condition of the trail and listing problems that need attention
 6. Reporting on signs that are missing, inaccurate or damaged
- Perform a walk-through of my assigned stretch of trail in the spring, summer and fall of each year and perform additional work outings as necessary.
- Submit trail reports following each visit.
- Respond to the annual renewal which occurs in the spring.
- Report any major trail or shelter issues to the GMC Field Programs office.

Trail Adopter Qualifications

- Basic backcountry and hiking experience
- Ability to travel and work independently in the woods
- Good communication skills, friendly and self-motivated
- Knowledge of Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics
- Basic familiarity with trail design on the Long Trail and hand tools