



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

Volunteer 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 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 adopters 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. Twice-yearly maintenance of drainage structures, and evaluation of drainage structures and necessary improvements
 2. Keeping the trail clear of blowdowns, brush and annual vegetation and maintaining the corridor to appropriate width and height
 3. Monitoring edge of trail berms and de-berming where necessary to support effective sheet flow of water
 4. Maintaining paint blazes
 5. Monitoring trail infrastructure such as bridges, stone steps or wooden staircases for structural failure
 6. Monitoring for development of social trails and bootleg campsites and decommissioning and naturalizing where necessary
 7. Reporting on directional or informational signage that is missing, inaccurate or damaged
 8. Monitor trail infrastructure for vandalism and graffiti of a hateful, bigoted or violent nature and document and report such incidences to GMC Staff
- Attend remote program orientation with GMC Volunteer Coordinator.
- 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 online trail adopter reports as soon as possible after each trip
- Alert Volunteer Coordinator if you're unable to continue adopter responsibilities.

Trail Adopter Qualifications

- Basic backcountry and hiking experience
- Ability to travel and work independently in the woods
- Good communication skills, friendly and self-motivated
- Basic familiarity with trail design on the Long Trail and hand tools