

Outdoor Recreation Programs

- To volunteer with Outdoor Recreation, fill out an application at http://bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/Portals/Parks/documents/bcrp_volunteerapp2013.pdf and e-mail to Molly Gallant at Molly.Gallant@baltimorecity.gov
- **Outdoor Program Assistant – Internship**
 - Continuation of an ongoing project to assist in the development and implementation of outdoor activity programs in Baltimore parks, with a special emphasis upon assessment of their health benefits as part of the Mayor’s Healthy Baltimore Initiative; environmental and historical awareness as part of the National Park Service Partnership to Find Your Park and the Waterfront Partnerships, Swimmable Fishable Harbor by 2020 goal, the development of the next generation of outdoor enthusiast in Baltimore emphasis on Connecting with Nature. The intern would organize and provide leadership for outdoor activities; conduct surveys; Collect/ compile demographics and other additional user info and disseminate information to participants on the health benefits of outdoor activity. This internship opportunity provides a lot of interaction with the residents and “Friends of Parks” of Baltimore in various parks throughout Baltimore City. We teach and provide opportunities with Canoeing, Kayaking, Hiking, Camping and Biking to all levels. We also have opportunities for more independent research and development of additional Outdoor Recreation opportunities i.e. equestrian use, rock climbing, mountain biking, natural surface trail development, fishing, etc.
 - COMMITMENT: the hours, commitment, and goals can be tailored for school requirements; would be a minimum of 1 semester.
- **Bike Programs and Mechanics:**
 - **Shop Volunteer Mechanics:**
 - We receive donated bicycles and need help fixing them, for programming like the Rides Around Program, Guided Trail Rides and Learn-To-Ride classes. Volunteers interested in improving or maintaining their skills as mechanics. There are times when people can come in and fix their own bicycles. Shop Mechanics help by offering excellent customer service, help, or advice when needed.
 - TRAINING can be formal or informal. Some volunteers attend classes on bike mechanics and volunteer to keep practicing; others learn “on the job” while volunteering, or while being paired with more experienced mechanics.
 - SKILLS: Basic knowledge of bike mechanics. Volunteers should enjoy teaching others, are patient and flexible with others’ learning styles,

and are familiar with “hands-off” teaching tactics. To be welcoming, and have excellent customer service skills.

- **COMMITMENT:** We have 2 shop per month or travel with the mobile bike program. Shop Mechanics are asked to commit to volunteering for the entire duration (4 hours) of a shift, at least once a month.

- **Greeters and Facilitators**

- Shop nights and Rides Around can be hectic places! We need volunteers to greet people at the “door”, answer questions, sign in and direct them to where they need to be. Our goal is to make the bike program approachable and accessible to people of all backgrounds, and to make this is a fun role that allows you to meet, greet, and make everyone comfortable coming to a bike program.
- **SKILLS:** To be welcoming, and have excellent customer service skills.
- **COMMITMENT:** Greeters and Facilitators are asked to commit to volunteering for a 4 hour shift, at least once a month.

- **Community Ride Leaders**

- Love to ride? Love to explore? Love to show others your favorite trails and parks? This is the perfect role for you. 2+ leaders will get together to plan and lead weekly 4-12 miles rides, and be responsible for creating a welcoming space for riders of all levels .
- **SKILLS:** collaborative route planning can perform basic road-side assistance (including fixing flats, basic medical response.
- **COMMITMENT:** In season, Community Rides happen weekly and usually last 1-5 hours; ride leaders should commit to staying for the entire duration of a ride, and leading at least 3 rides over the season. Some collaborative planning with other ride leaders happens in advance of the ride day

- **Volunteer Learn to Ride Instructors (assist the lead, staff instructor)**

- Learn to Ride is a class we teach for adult and youth learners, and is one of our most popular classes during the spring, summer and fall! Volunteers work with staff and other volunteers to teach our Learn to Ride curriculum, offer encouragement, and help make class a supportive learning environment. As a continuation of the Learn to Ride class, this program offers ongoing practice as well as riding and handling instruction. These are fun, slow, no-drop rides aimed at building skills and confidence, and a love of biking.
- **SKILLS:** Instructors are required to have attended a Learn-to-Ride Train-The-Trainer training to become comfortable and well-versed in our curriculum. Has experience Riding in Traffic, trained in teaching safe cycling to new to bikers

- **COMMITMENT:** Classes are usually held once a week for a month (4-6 classes); Instructors are asked to attend all classes in a session, and be involved for at least 2 sessions. Additional rides are usually held once a week; leaders are asked to commit to leading 1 ride a week (initially with the help of staff)
 - 2hrs weekly, 1 month duration minimum.
 - Help plan the route with staff and/or riders and co-lead a group of new riders
 - Ensure the group stays together and no one is left behind
 - Focus on teaching road skills during the session, while having fun
- **Special Events Volunteer**
 - We are always looking for folks to help us with events such as staffing festivals (ECO Fest, Tour Dem Parks) community rides, and bike party. Check out our upcoming events and let us know if you would like to help out.
- **Community Hiking/Walk Guides**
 - Love to hike? Love to explore parks and trails in Baltimore? Love to show others your favorite trails and parks? This is the perfect role for you. 2+ leaders will get together to plan and lead weekly 2-12 miles hikes, and be responsible for creating a welcoming space for hikers of all levels.
 - **SKILLS:** collaborative route planning, knowledge of a trail or comfort in city parks (basic medical response is a plus).
 - **COMMITMENT:** In season, Community Walks and Hikes happen weekly and usually last 1-5 hours; hike leaders should commit to staying for the entire duration of a hike/walk, and leading at least 3 hikes or walks over the season. Some collaborative planning with other hike/walk leaders happens in advance of the hike/walk day
- **Kayak/Canoe Trip Assistant Volunteer Instructors – experience required**
 - Learn to Paddle is a class we teach for adult and youth learners, and is one of our most popular classes during the, summer! Volunteers work with staff and other volunteers to teach our Learn to paddle curriculum, offer encouragement, and help make class a supportive learning environment. As a continuation of the Learn to Paddle class, Outdoor Recreation offers ongoing additional programs as well as limited instruction during Spring, Summer and Fall programs. These are fun, slow, no-drop trips aimed at building skills and confidence, and a love of paddling.
 - **SKILLS:** Instructors are required to have attended a Water Safety Training/Train-The-Trainer training to become comfortable and well-versed in our curriculum. ACA certifications or equivalent are a plus. Has experience paddling in open water, trained in teaching safe paddling skills for new participants.
 - **COMMITMENT:** Classes are usually held once a week for a June – August season on a drop in bases. Instructors are asked to attend at least 4 sessions

a season, and be involved for at least 2 trips or outings on open water. Additional trips are usually held 3 times a week; leaders are asked to commit to assisting at least 3 trips a season (with the supervision of staff)