

2018 VOLUNTEER PARK PATROLLER PROGRAM

Share your knowledge and skills by assisting visitors and protecting the resources of Jefferson County Open Space

Information Packet

Position Description | Training Dates

Application Deadline: March 1, 2018



JEFFERSON
COUNTY COLORADO
Open Space

The purpose of a Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) volunteer is to assist in preserving open space and parkland, protecting park and natural resources, and providing visitors with healthy, nature-based experiences.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Shaun Howard, JCOS Ranger Team Lead
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SUMMARY OF POSITION

Provides visitor education and assistance, first aid, emergency response (First Aid/CPR), and resource protection in order to enhance the park visitor experience. Patrols parks using common modes of non-motorized travel such as hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing. Park Patrollers may become active on various primary teams: Bike Patrollers, Hiking Patrollers, Equestrian Ambassadors and/or Bark Patrollers, and/or any other approved team.

DUTIES

- Provides a visible presence at JCOS parks while focusing efforts on frequently used park trails especially during high visitation
- Addresses park visitor concerns and issues in a **friendly** manner
- Records and reports visitor comments, recreational trends, and safety issues to the JCOS Park Ranger staff
- Initiates contact with park visitors on issues related to multi-use conflict, safety and park regulations while patrolling
- Completes and submits an electronic patrol log after each assignment and reports volunteer hours on a timely basis
- Assist JCOS Park Rangers at education events and on special patrols
- Performs light maintenance at the parks (pick up trash on trails/trailheads, replace toilet paper, light cleaning of restrooms)



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REQUIREMENTS
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- Must be at least 18 years old
- Possess strong interpersonal skills, including a demonstrated ability to educate the public concerning park rules in a **friendly** manner
- Capable of working independently with little or no supervision
- Possess good decision-making and communication skills
- Physical ability to work outdoors in various weather conditions in a variety of parks
- Complete 40 hours of volunteer service per year
- Successfully complete the JCOS Volunteer Park Patroller Training Program
- Purchase and wear the JCOS Park Patroller uniform
- Provide own mode of transportation and appropriate outdoor gear
- Attend scheduled meetings/trainings
- Volunteers must abide by the JCOS Park Regulations and established volunteer policies and procedures outlined in the JCOS Volunteer Orientation Manual

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TRAINING
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- New Volunteer Park Patrollers participate in approximately 10 to 25 hours of training which includes a New Volunteer Orientation to JCOS, first aid, conflict management, emergency response, outdoor safety and resource protection
- Returning Park Patrollers participate in 2–10 hours of refresher training every year
- Continuing education is offered throughout the year
- A mentored patrol with experienced Park Patrollers is required of new volunteers

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BENEFITS
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- Participate in high quality emergency response, first aid, public relations and resource management training
- Enjoy the outdoors while representing JCOS
- Meet other volunteers with shared interests and experiences
- Share experiences and visitor perspectives with JCOS staff
- Receive training in public relations, resource management and interpretation
- Develop a greater understanding of the role and mission of JCOS
- Explore the JCOS park system
- Opportunities to participate in events created especially for JCOS volunteers

..... **NEXT STEPS**

1. Create an Account and Submit an Application by March 1, 2018

Applications are available online at: <https://offer0.jeffco.us/>

2. Attend an Interview

Interviews will be held at the JCOS office, 700 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 100, Golden, Colorado, 80401. Interview will take 30–45 minutes. Volunteers will be contacted directly to schedule an interview.

Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

Sunday, March 18, 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

3. Attend a New Volunteer Orientation

All new volunteers are required to attend a New Volunteer Orientation to become familiar with the entire JCOS program prior to specific program training. Orientation sessions are held at the JCOS headquarters, 700 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 100, Golden, Colorado, 80401.

You must pre-register for orientation on Offero <https://offer0.jeffco.us/>.

You need attend only one of the following:

Thursday, March 22, 5:30—7 p.m.

Saturday, March 24, 8:30—10 a.m.

Saturday, April 7, 8:30—10 a.m.

4. Attend Program Specific NEW Park Patroller Training

This 8-hour introductory classroom training is designed for volunteers new to the Park Patroller program. Topics covered will be how to talk to visitors and how to respond to emergencies. During the afternoon portion of the class, participants will become First Aid/CPR certified through the American Heart Association. This training is mandatory. There will NOT be an alternate date! However, new Park Patrollers, who have submitted a current First Aid/CPR card, can opt out of the afternoon portion of the training. All other new volunteers will be required to attend. A working lunch will be provided.

Saturday, April 7, 9 a.m.—5 p.m. at Lookout Mountain Nature Center

5. Attend a Park Patroller Training (choose one date)

New volunteers will get a chance to meet returning volunteers. This refresher training is required for returning volunteers every year. Important Jeffco Open Space information will be discussed.

Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m.—12 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Country Club

6. Schedule a Mentored Patrol

We will assign you a seasoned Park Patroller Mentor who will patrol with you on your first patrol. Once assigned a Mentor, you need to contact them to schedule a patrol. The schedule for a mentored patrol is flexible – you and your mentor decide on a time and date that works best for both of you. A mentored patrol is required and must be completed before a new Park Patroller is cleared to patrol on his/her own.

7. Get your uniform and schedule your first patrol!