

Maintenance – Battle Creek Nature Center Gardens 2020

Project Leader: Tania Gale Tania.Gale@CalvertCountyMD.gov 410-535-5327

Volunteers: 0

Hours: 0

Volunteers assist with maintaining the areas around the Battle Creek Nature Center including: gardens, nature play space, and trails. Volunteers assist staff with weeding, watering, deadheading, preparing garden beds, mulching, and general clean-up. From invasive plant removal, to routine garden care, to maintaining the nature play space and trails - there is always something to be done.

SKILLS NEEDED

- Basic gardening skills & knowledge.
- Be able to work with minimal guidance or supervision.
- We can help train those with little experience.

Optional, but Preferred, Skills

- Be able to answer visitors questions about Calvert County plants, animals, and ecosystems.
- Learn how to identify native species as well as non-native & invasive species.

VOLUNTEER DUTIES

- Weeding
- Watering
- Transplanting
- Composting & Mulching
- Identifying & Tagging Plants
- Preparing new garden beds
- Adding hardscaping like benches, stepping stones, pavers
- Cutting back plants from along trail edges
- Weed nature play space

REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

- Volunteers must be able to perform moderately strenuous physical tasks.
- Work somewhat independently – after direction from naturalist staff.
- Volunteers must be able to perform moderately strenuous physical tasks.
- Be exposed to ticks, chiggers, mosquitoes, bees/wasps, poison ivy, bad weather, and other wild life

TRAININGS

- Attend new volunteer orientation with project leader
- Meet with project leader onsite for a work day

Seasonal Project duties

- **Spring:** prep beds, acquire new plants, work with Garden Club to get some plants for them to plant, plant new plants, water new plants, etc
- **Summer:** weed, water garden beds
- **Fall:** weed, water as needed, deadhead, mulch beds as available
- **Throughout the year:** weed, prune shrubs, clean up nature play space, prune along trails

Summary of 2020 Activities

- Most garden activities in 2020 were put off due to COVID-19. Staff and interns kept up the garden this year as best we could.

Future Plans

- Get volunteers to use Galaxy Digital to register for opportunities (including the Chesapeake Garden Club)
- Schedule several work days through the growing season to replant the garden beds that have been damaged by construction winter 2020
- Schedule a stepping stone workshop
- Continue working on the patio area by the lower pond so that visitors can walk to the viewing area
- Make or purchase a bench to add to the lower pond patio and markers for the plants

Supporting Calvert County's nature parks and natural spaces



CALVERT STEWARDS

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

A partnership between Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division

2020 Annual Report

Date of Issue February 2021

CALVERT STEWARDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
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Volunteer Portal: <https://calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com/>

Calvert Nature Society: www.calvertparks.org

Calvert County Natural Resources Division:
www.calvertcountymd.gov/NaturalResources

