

# Grafton Lakes State Park

## Volunteer Gardener

**CATEGORY:** Docent

**SUPERVISOR:** Volunteer Coordinator

**LOCATION:** On-site and remote

Located on the Rensselaer Plateau, Grafton Lakes State Park consists of over 2,500 acres and over 25 miles of trails. The park is home to six ponds, serves as a sanctuary for nocturnal mammals, and includes diverse ecosystems. In addition to ecological significance, the park is an invaluable open space recreational and educational resource complete with a fire tower, 1,000-foot beach, and opportunities for boating and fishing. Grafton Lakes State Park includes many gardens including at the welcome center, beach, ticket booth, and front entrance.



### **SUMMARY:**

The Volunteer Gardener works with the Volunteer Coordinator and other staff to ensure that all gardens in the park are healthy, sustainable, and full of native plants. The Gardener is also responsible for working with staff to make the gardens appealing to the public. This position requires a knowledge of native plants, basic gardening techniques, and strong communication skills to work with staff to make an annual plan. The Gardener leads monthly gardening days May-Sept for the public and crew members. The Gardener oversees crew members, teaching the logistics of gardening within the park.

The Volunteer Gardener serves in a leadership volunteer role for the park as a Docent. This position is mostly on-site but does require remote communication with crew members.

### **DUTIES:**

- Work with staff for seasonal planting of flowers
- Remove weeds, trim bushes/plants, and other general upkeep of gardens keep them sustainable and healthy
- Oversee volunteer gardening crew, teach basics of gardening, and verify those who are able to work solo
- Offer monthly volunteer gardening days May-Sept for crew and public
- Oversee gardening project as a part of I Love My Park Day and Falls Trails Day if possible
- Provide assistance and attend volunteer open house and group volunteer orientation trainings if possible
- Maintain strong communication with the staff volunteer coordinator

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Successfully complete all volunteer and docent trainings
- Must have access to a phone and email
- Knowledge of basic gardening techniques and plant identification (Master Gardener a plus)
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a positive, outgoing attitude
- Work requires moderate physical exertion and occasional exposure to a variety of weather conditions
- Ability to work with minimal supervision
- Reliable source of transportation
- Minimal commitment of at least 60 hours per year

### **For more information, or to apply, please contact:**

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