



Natural Lands Force of Nature® Class of 2021 Volunteer Program



Natural Lands' *Force of Nature*® program is a way for volunteers to support land conservation and connect people to the outdoors through strong dedication to Natural Lands. Force of Nature volunteers receive extensive training and leadership opportunities, and commit to serving at least 20 hours per year. Program trainees participate in a comprehensive training and service experience that enables you to learn from Natural Lands staff experts, and then give back as a valuable volunteer.

Force of Nature training is offered annually each spring, covering a variety of land management, habitat restoration, native plant gardening, event support, outreach and ambassadorship topics.

Force of Nature Class of 2021 training runs February 6 through April 10, 2021. Most sessions are Thursday evenings, 6:00-8:00 pm virtually, with three (3) in-person Saturday afternoon sessions. Volunteers must complete at least 9 of the 15 sessions, including required sessions, to graduate the program.

Saturday, February 6, 1:00 – 3:30 pm – Virtual Welcome and Introduction.

This session is required.

Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Virtual Trainings - Caring for Nature.

4 of 6 sessions are required.

- February 11 - Habitat Restoration Project Profiles
- February 18 - Conservation Strategies
- February 25 - Tree Planting and Leave No Trace
- March 4 - Wildlife Management and Nestboxes
- March 11 - Native Plants and Peoples
- March 18 - Ecological Gardening and Sustainable Landscapes

Virtual Trainings - Leadership

1 of 3 sessions plus 1 in-person activity are required.

- March 25 – Preserve Ambassador Outreach and Events
- April 1 – Volunteer Peer Leadership
- April 8 – Trail Stewards and Garden Tenders
- Additional in-person activity to be scheduled during Class.

Saturday, March 6, 1:00 – 4:00 pm – *In-person* - Stewardship Saturday.

This session is required. Location: ChesLen Preserve. **Rain date: March 13**

Saturday, April 10 1:00 – 4:00 pm – *In-person* - Gardening and Graduation.

This session is required. Location: Stoneleigh, a natural garden.

Rain date: April 17

During in-person sessions, staff and volunteers interact outdoors, in small groups, following safety protocols that include mask-wearing and social-distancing.

Additional details and online application available on our [website](https://www.natlands.org).



Photos by Debbie Beer

Thanks for your interest in the *Force of Nature*®. Contact Debbie Beer if any questions.
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www.natlands.org