



CITY OF MENDOTA HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER SERVICE DESCRIPTION

Service Title: Tree Planting Volunteer (Group Member)

Program: Natural Resources

Supervisor(s): Krista Spreiter, Natural Resource Coordinator

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Service Location: Various Locations

Purpose: To plant tree(s) within the City of Mendota Heights for the whole community to enjoy.

Service Length: One-time.

Time Commitment: A minimum of 1 hour on designated event date.

Qualifications/Desired Skills:

- Enjoy being outdoors.
- Ability to work independently without staff supervision after training has been completed.
- Can follow through on agreed upon commitment.
- Follow specific planting and care instructions provided during volunteer training. The most important task in tree care is planting technique. Incorrect planting can kill a tree or shorten its lifespan significantly.
- Perform physical labor such as lifting (working in teams), digging, bending, and kneeling.

Service Duties: Tree planting volunteers will work with other volunteers to plant bare root or potted/container trees ranging in size from 6" (seedlings) to 15 feet and 1-2" in diameter. Maximum size of trees to be planted will be 15-gallon container trees, which may weigh up to 90 pounds. These will be lifted and planted in teams of volunteers. Volunteers may be asked to water trees and place mulch around the root zone after planting. Planting tools used may include rakes, pitchforks, tree spades, trowels, or shovels. All trees will be planted in public spaces, which may include parks, natural areas, or along trails and streets.

Outcomes/Learning Opportunities: This is an opportunity to give back to the community by planting a tree that will be enjoyed by residents, visitors, and wildlife for years to come. Volunteers will learn proper technique in tree planting, as well as basic tree care. Trees benefit the City by providing: aesthetic enhancement, shade, improving air and water quality, reducing the heat-island affect, and providing food and habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

On-boarding: Every volunteer will be required to submit a contact form (or provide proof of a recent background check).

Training Requirements: Every volunteer will receive role-specific training.

Special Instructions: All volunteers are required to wear protective clothing, work gloves, and closed-toe shoes. Long sleeves, long pants, hat, protective eyewear, sunblock, and tick/insect protection is strongly recommended. Volunteers may be asked to bring their own tools, including shovels.