



Washtenaw County Parks **WILDFLOWER RANGER**

VOLUNTEER POSITION

Get outdoors exploring beautiful natural areas in spring, & safeguard spring wildflowers for future generations.

Make a difference & enrich your life through exceptional experiences—volunteer with Washtenaw Parks!

QUALIFICATIONS

- A love for the outdoors and nature
- With training, able to recognize common, fairly distinct plants
- Able to hike during spring, across uneven and at times muddy trails
- Basic-level ability to bend or kneel, and pull lightly-rooted plants

SCHEDULE

- Trainings are scheduled throughout spring on weekends and weekdays. Once trained, you set your schedule.
- Timeframe ranges from early April through late June

PURPOSE

Wildflower Rangers safeguard the spectacular spring wildflower displays in natural areas throughout Washtenaw County. The classic signs of spring, ephemeral wildflowers not only relieve weary Michiganders of the winter blues, they also provide crucial early spring nectar for hungry bees and pollinators. As a Wildflower Ranger, you'll take a lead role preserving these striking ecological communities.

DUTIES

- Hike the trails at your favorite natural area(s), appreciating the wildflower display as it progresses throughout spring
- Monitor for invasive plants that threaten spring wildflowers
- Within the limits of your time and capacity, hand pull invasive plants that threaten spring wildflowers, prioritizing manageably small and sparse patches
- Report your time and activities

TIME COMMITMENT

Six (6) hour minimum annual commitment (including training) to be recognized as a Wildflower Ranger.

BENEFITS

- Feel pride in your role preserving Michigan wildflowers for future generations to enjoy
- Connection to a community of people with shared values
- Access to equipment (gloves, etc.) as needed
- Pride in improving natural areas that matter to you
- Joy outdoors in nature while getting exercise
- Recognition and appreciation by staff and volunteers



HOW TO APPLY

Attend a scheduled training, or, if already familiar with common spring wildflowers, e-mail Matthew Bertrand, Volunteer Coordinator, at Bertrandm@washtenaw.org.