



HIGH LINE CANAL CONSERVANCY

Connecting Communities—Connecting Nature
from the foothills to the plains

~Volunteer Position Description~ 2023

Title: Canal Ambassador
Duration: All year round
Work Days: Flexible
Annual Hours: Minimum of 20/year

High Line Canal

An extraordinary feat of engineering now nearly 140 years old, the 71-mile-long Canal is outliving its historic function as an irrigation utility and has taken on new life as a recreational resource and green stormwater infrastructure. As the Canal transitions from its historic purpose, the High Line Canal Conservancy (Conservancy) is faced with an urgent need to move forward critical enhancements and stewardship that bolster community resiliency and environmental health.

High Line Canal Conservancy

The Conservancy is a nonprofit organization with the mission to preserve, protect and enhance the High Line Canal in partnership with the public. Since its formation in 2014, the Conservancy has partnered with the Canal's owner, Denver Water, and the 11 jurisdictions it traverses to lead an unprecedented outreach and planning initiative that has led to the current focus to improve the Canal through capital projects and community programs. With engagement from over 5,000 stakeholders and invaluable initial support from GOCO, the Conservancy created the nationally award-winning *Community Vision Plan for the High Line Canal* ([The Vision Plan](#), 2017) and *The Plan for the High Line Canal* ([The Plan](#), 2019).

The Plan lays out clear guidance for re-purposing the historic Canal, improving the health of people and the environment, and increasing accessibility and enjoyment for generations to come. In support of this work, the Conservancy also leads a series of volunteer, stewardship and environmental education programs that support the development of young and diverse environmental leaders with over 500 unique participants to date.

In order to implement relevant enhancements and foster community-driven programs, the Conservancy is committed to developing a deeper level of engagement within the communities along the northeast portion of the trail in NE Denver and Aurora where the Canal is underutilized and, historically, has lacked investment in the corridor. With funding from Great Outdoors Colorado ([GOCO](#)) through their [Resilient Communities program](#), the Conservancy has the opportunity to improve community vitality, advance equitable access and increase stewardship of the Canal in this challenging yet urgent time.

Learn more about the Canal and the Conservancy at www.highlinecanal.org.

Volunteer Position Summary

This position provides the opportunity to work with the Conservancy staff, partners, volunteers, and community members to support community outreach and engagement.

Community Outreach and Engagement

- Set up a table at multiple locations along the Canal to engage with Canal users and the local community
- Assist with outreach at private and public community events to connect with community members, share project and program updates, and recruit supporters and volunteers
 - Attend and support staff at trail stewardship events including trash, weed, and brush removals and tree plantings
 - Support recreational and educational community programs along the Canal, such as community walks
 - Engage with community members through environmental education and community science programs, such as birding and Bioblitzes
- Help coordinate and execute the community events
- Engage community members to provide input for trail projects
- Disseminate trail use and enhancements surveys
- Distribute flyers and install signs as needed to promote events or Canal happenings
- Assist with the implementation of a [Share the Canal](#) campaign to encourage trail etiquette around various recreational uses.

Canal Monitoring

- Observe sections of the Canal to monitor the status of the trail and corridor for stormwater flow, trash and debris accumulation, trail safety, graffiti, plants and wildlife, and more.

Qualifications

- Demonstrates an understanding of and commitment to the long-term mission and value of the Conservancy
- A passion for connecting people in diverse communities to nature and to each other
- An understanding of or desire to learn about the importance of community involvement in designing and enhancing public open spaces
- Self-motivated and highly organized with tremendous attention to detail and an ability to multi-task
- Excellent communication skills
- Available to work during evenings and weekends as needed
- Commits to a minimum 20 hours per year
- Attends one required Orientation and one required Canal Ambassador Training

Application Instructions

Please complete this [online Canal Ambassador Application](#).

The Conservancy is dedicated to the principles of equal opportunity for all employees, applicants, volunteers, program and event participants, trail users and visitors, partners, and other organizational stakeholders. We prohibit unlawful discrimination and harassment based on age, race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, disability, military status, genetic information, native language, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, gender, veteran status, political service, and affiliation or any other status protected by applicable state or local law. This prohibition includes unlawful harassment based on any of these protected classes.



Unlawful harassment includes verbal or physical conduct which has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. This policy applies to all employees, including managers, supervisors, co-workers and non-employees such as customers, clients, vendors, consultants, etc.

