



HIGH LINE CANAL CONSERVANCY

Connecting Communities—Connecting Nature
from the foothills to the plains

~Volunteer Position Description~ 2023

Title:	Canal Conservation Corps Leader
Duration:	All year round
Volunteer 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.

Canal Conservation Corps

The Conservancy's stewardship programs are powered by the Canal Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC is made up of trained youth and adult Corps Leaders, as well as individual and group volunteers. The CCC aims to harnesses the commitment of community members from across the region, enabling and inspiring them to work together to enhance the Canal's ecological health and future vitality.

Types of Stewardship Programs

- Trash cleanups to improve habitat and waterways
- Weed removals to mitigate invasive weeds and promote native vegetation
- Brush removals to reduce fire and flood risk
- Tree plantings to help revitalize the tree canopy and enhance the ecological health of the Canal

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

Volunteer Position Summary

A Canal Conservation Corps Leader (Corps Leader) will work with Conservancy staff, partners, volunteers, and community members to support our on-the-ground programs and events focused on stewardship of the Canal.

Stewardship Programs

- Assist and support staff at stewardship-focused volunteer events along the Canal, such as trash cleanups, weed removals, brush removals and tree plantings.
 - With adequate training, Corps Leaders are able to lead stewardship events independently with Conservancy staff approval and if desired by the Corps Leader.
- Help with day-of stewardship event tasks such as: Setting up and breaking down events, taking photos, checking in volunteers and collecting waivers, distributing and managing tools and supplies, overseeing participants, assisting with trash and debris collection, ensuring safety of volunteers and giving an environmental/safety talk at the start of each event.
- Conduct site assessments to analyze segments of the Canal for potential stewardship projects and report findings to the Community Outreach and Programs Coordinator such as parking locations and trail accessibility.
- Promote stewardship events by posting flyers and placing Conservancy signs by locations near events and/or by sharing event details via social media outlets such as Next Door, Facebook, local HOA newsletters, etc.
- Share information with volunteers, trail users and passersby about the purpose and benefits of each stewardship event, as well as how to get involved in future volunteer events.
- Sign community service hours form for volunteers requesting community service hours
- 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.
- Support community science programs such as birding and Bioblitz

Programs and Event Administration

- Timely communication with Conservancy staff, volunteers and other partners as needed to coordinate logistics for programs and events.
- Complete errands, such as picking up and dropping off stewardship supplies and snacks and sanitizing stewardship supplies (vests, gloves, and pickers)

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
- Excellent communication skills and desire to work alongside other community members
- Available to work during evenings and weekends as needed
- Availability to commit a minimum of 20 hours per year
- Attends one required Orientation and one required Corps Leader Training
- Must display a strong understanding of Conservancy safety protocols for all stewardship events and be comfortable conveying this information to volunteers.

Application Instructions

Please complete this [online Canal Conservation Corps Leader 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.

