

Volunteer Trail Steward Description

Nature of Work:

As a Volunteer Trail Steward with Salida Mountain Trails (SMT), you will play an essential role in the protection and enhancement of trails and trailheads in several trail systems around Salida. These systems include, but are not limited to, Arkansas Hills, Methodist Mountain, the Rainbow Trail and the first 5 miles of the Monarch Crest Trail. Trail Stewards adopt a specific trail or section of trail and are responsible for the regular maintenance that is essential for ensuring that trails are safe, accessible, and in good condition for all user groups. SMT expects that trail stewards will work on their sections at least twice a year, as well as reporting completed work, trail conditions, and concerns. Work generally involves hiking or biking to work sites and includes the use of various hand and power tools. Individuals in these positions are required to perform work in a manner consistent with BLM, US Forest Service, City of Salida, and Salida Mountain Trail standards.

Essential Job Functions:

- Make a commitment to care for the assigned trail (or section of trail) in its entirety
- Maintain the trail as outlined in the SMT Trail Maintenance Handbook. This primarily includes raking and corridor clearing.
- Report trail conditions of concern. This includes fallen trees, washouts, or any other major problems on the trail that you do not have the tools or experience to address. When reporting, note the level of severity; does the condition make the trail impassable or unsafe, requiring immediate attention. Include photos as appropriate
- Act in a manner that is safe, professional and courteous to all trail users
- Everyone is responsible for the care of any tools and equipment they borrow from SMT

Trail Steward Commitment and Expectations:

- Attend a half day SMT Trail Steward training in the spring. SMT asks that Stewards attend the training annually as a skills refresher. (**Dates TBD**)
- Trail Stewards are expected to work on their section of trail at least 2 times a year, ideally once in the spring and once in the fall. Additional requirements may vary depending on local events and trail use.
- Report trail steward hours on SMT website as soon as possible following work on section of trail. SMT will send out monthly reporting reminders to Stewards.