

## **Discovery Park Docent Program**

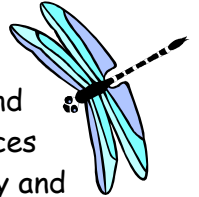
### **General Information Sheet**

3801 West Government Way Seattle, WA 98199 (206) 684-7256

Thanks for your interest in the Volunteer Naturalist Program at Discovery Park! We are eager to welcome new volunteers, and hope this will answer some of your questions about the program—please call if you need more information!

#### **What is a Docent / Volunteer Naturalist?**

Docents are volunteer naturalists who work with a team of professional naturalists and fellow docents to facilitate environmental education/ nature interpretation experiences for the public. As a docent you receive on-going training in Northwest natural history and interpretation techniques, and in return, you facilitate environmental education experiences for children and adults.



#### **Who becomes a Docent?**

Docent backgrounds are as varied as the students they teach -- the common link is their desire to share nature with others. Qualities we seek in our volunteer naturalists include good communication skills, reliability, commitment, and a desire to work with children. Teaching experience and/or knowledge of Northwest natural history are desirable, yet not necessary.

#### **What do Volunteer Naturalists do?**

There are many ways you can put your talents to use as a Volunteer Naturalist. The following is a partial list.

- 🌐 Lead natural history programs for small groups.
- 🌐 Provide hands-on learning opportunities at Discovery Stations in the park.
- 🌐 Develop and lead a variety of other classes for children and/or adults.
- 🌐 Help with special events at the park (e.g. Earth Day, International Bird Day, etc).

#### **What's the time commitment?**

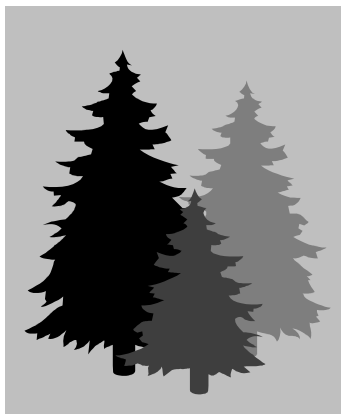
After completing 12 weeks of training, docents commit to at least one year with the park. They are expected to lead 12 classes or discovery stations in that period. Many docents come in weekly or bi-weekly. Several docents have been active with the program for many years!

#### **When does the next session start?**

Docents are recruited once a year and have two 6 week training sessions to prepare them to lead programs year-round. If you apply for the program outside of the recruitment period, you are put on a list and notified before the next training session begins. The next session begins in February 2009. Training consists of six weeks in February and March and six weeks in late summer/early fall - approximately 100 hours.

Questions? Call Discovery Park at (206) 684-7256

<http://www.discoverypark.org>



***BECOME A VOLUNTEER  
NATURALIST!***

# **Discovery Park Docent Program**

***EXCITING! REWARDING! CHALLENGING!***

**TEACH:** kids & adults about their environment  
**ENHANCE:** ecological awareness  
**PROMOTE:** environmental stewardship  
**RECEIVE:** training in natural history

**TO RECEIVE APPLICATION MATERIALS  
AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**DISCOVERY PARK  
3801 WEST GOVERNMENT WAY  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98199**

**Applications due January 30**

**Training starts February 19**

**(206) 684-7256**

**<http://www.discoverypark.org>**



# Docent Application Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

First name as you want it to appear on your name tag: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Are you 18 or over? \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Place of employment: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Is it possible to call you at work? \_\_\_\_\_ WORK (or Cell) PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you interested in working weekends or weekdays or both? Please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to be a docent at Discovery Park?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever taught or worked with children? (please list your experience)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which age group(s) do you prefer working with? (check any that apply)

tots (age 2-4)

preschool/kindergarten (age 4-5)

elementary (age 6-12)

teens (age 12-17)

adults

NOTE: Docents conduct very few programs which are solely for adults.

Please list any special skills or areas of interest you have, i.e. photography, art, natural history, teaching, storytelling, birdwatching, speaking another language etc:

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How did you learn about the Discovery Park Docent program?

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Are you trained in  CPR  First Aid

Agreement with Discovery Park Docent Program:

- I will complete the docent training (11 sessions in Spring, 11 sessions in Fall).
- I will be able to fulfill the needs and requirements of the Discovery Park Docent Program.
- I plan on making a commitment of at least one year to the Discovery Park Docent Program.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications are due *January 30, 2009***

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

Discovery Park  
3801 West Government Way  
Seattle, WA 98199  
Attn: Docent Coordinator

