

Volunteer Role Open: Fern Cliff Preserve Steward



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Time Commitment: 4-8 hours a month

Day of Week: Open, volunteer's choice

Location: Fern Cliff Nature Preserve, 6475 W
County Rd 375 South, Greencastle, IN 46135

Do you enjoy being out in the field and maybe a bit dirty after a hard day's work? If so, then the volunteer role of Preserve Steward is perfect for you! The Nature Conservancy is seeking a dedicated volunteer to help us restore and care for **Fern Cliff Nature Preserve** in Putnam County.

The **Preserve Steward volunteer** will learn the art and science of restoration and land management work. They will focus on invasive species removal on the preserve. Their skills and contribution allow for TNC's stewardship staff to maximize their capacity and better care for Fern Cliff's unique woodlands.

This role will have opportunities for training and education on equipment, tools, and techniques for invasive species management. Experience is appreciated but not required.

Duties may include:

- Controlling invasive plants with herbicide and/or hand tools
- Removing woody brush with hand tools
- Keeping the parking area tidy and checking on preserve signage
- Working with staff in areas with uneven terrain, no electricity or plumbing
- Communicating with Land Stewardship staff about prioritizing tasks
- Following the management plan provided by Land Stewardship staff
- Completing training as needed and requested by staff
- Tracking volunteer hours for inclusion in our annual volunteer reports
- Working with Land Stewardship staff to identify and perform other restoration tasks

Desired experience or background:

- Interest in ecological restoration and fieldwork
- Able to identify common invasive plant species
- Experience using tools such as saws or backpack sprayers
- Comfortable with using general herbicides for conservation
- Able to complete TNC training program on herbicide use
- Detail-oriented and risk-averse
- Able to communicate with staff members and follow instructions
- Comfortable with working alone in remote areas

If you are interested in contributing your time and skills, please contact **Esmé Barniskis** at esme.barniskis@tnc.org.



To learn more about other volunteer opportunities, visit our [website](#).

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Our commitment to diversity includes the recognition that our conservation mission is best advanced by the leadership and contributions of people of all genders, diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and culture. Recruiting and mentoring staff to create an inclusive organization that reflects our global character is a priority, and we encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, military, protected veteran status or other status protected by law.