



Heritage Culturalist Program – Volunteer Job Description

The Heritage Culturalist Program (HCP) is an ambassador training program that educates volunteers in the rich history and recreation opportunities of the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area (CALA). Once trained, volunteers provide interpretation and expertise to the public at Poudre Heritage Alliance (PHA) programs and events. These volunteers share their knowledge with the public through a variety of interpretive activities including community events, teacher workshops, seminars, guided tours, and other activities in order to educate and increase public awareness about the National Heritage Area and its integral role in the birth of western water law, as well as its impact on agriculture, recreation, and the environment of the northern Colorado community, specifically Weld and Larimer counties. During the course of this program, the volunteers will be creating historical documentation of key assets of the Heritage Area's rich resources for posterity as well as heritage tourism opportunities.

Qualifications

- Must be 18 years of age or older or have parent/guardian signed permission
- Must pass a background check
- Have a passion for the past, present, and future of the Cache la Poudre River
- Be enthusiastic about conveying to the public, the history and recreation opportunities located within the CALA
- Have enthusiasm for learning and an aspiration to share knowledge with others

Certification Requirements

- Requirements for Initial Certification:
 - Complete mandatory training of approximately 18 hours over three days which includes classroom and outdoor field learning sessions
 - As part of a group, complete written and photographic documentation of a historical site in order to create or enhance PHA digital resources and submit for additional local, state, or national designations.
 - As an individual, complete either an Outreach Visit (Evaluate one of the PHA's partnering organizations in regards to their knowledge and visibility of the Heritage Area) or a Wayside Walk (Locate and evaluate 4 wayside interpretive signs for sign condition and content). This requirement must be completed within 5-6 weeks following the training.
- Requirements for maintaining Certification:
 - Regularly communicate with the PHA Program Manager and report volunteer hours
 - Agree to at least a two-year commitment to volunteering
 - Attend at least one qualified continuing education program, field trip, or workshop per year
 - Donate at least 40 hours to the CALA within two years. Volunteer opportunities may include:
 - Volunteering at PHA Events or *approved* events sponsored by PHA partnering organizations
 - Speaker's Bureau - Presenting information about the CALA to community groups, tourists, and visitors
 - Volunteering at future training sessions
 - Attending field trips with Learning in our Watershed scholarship recipients to promote awareness about the Heritage Area
 - Establishing, managing, adding/maintaining points of interest in the Heritage Area
 - Creating content for PHA digital resources

Benefits

- Gain knowledge of the history of the Cache la Poudre River and the surrounding watershed
- Connect with people who have similar interests
- Assist visitors in their understanding and appreciation the CALA's rich history, recreational resources and events
- Obtain a gratifying volunteer experience while furthering the vision of CALA and the mission of PHA

For More Information

Please contact the Program Manager at Poudre Heritage Alliance at 970-295-4851 or programs@poudreheritage.org