

V O L U N T E E R

OPPORTUNITIES in Orange County



Caspers Wilderness Park
33401 Ortega Hwy., San Juan Capistrano, CA
(949) 923-2210
www.ocparks.com/caspers

Caspers Wilderness Park is an 8,000 acre Orange County wilderness preserve which includes unique features like the San Juan Hot Springs, San Juan and Bell Canyon creeks, and an abandoned rock quarry. The park is supported by a non-profit docent organization that has functioned continuously for 23 years. Opportunities for volunteers in this organization include: Staffing our excellent Nature on weekends and holidays, leading interpretive walks for school groups and the general public, invasive plant removal and trail maintenance, and any other supportive functions you can imagine which are in line with the vision of the organization and approved by the park staff. You may attend our once a month meeting on the first Saturday of each month at 9:30 am or call the Nature Center at 949-923-2203 on any weekend for more information.



Crystal Cove State Park
8471 N. Coast Highway, Laguna Beach, CA
(949) 497-7647
www.crystalcovestatepark.com

Crystal Cove State Park offers 2400 acres of backcountry wilderness area perfect for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, bird watching, and environmental camping. On the coastal side of Pacific Coast Highway, the park boasts nearly 3.5 miles of rocky coastline and sandy shore enjoyed by swimmers, surfers, tidepoolers and those who like to build sand castles. There is also a 12 acre Historic District complete with 46 cottages built in the 20's and 30's. There are **four volunteer programs** sponsored by the park. Trained docents lead hikes, walks, and talks. Volunteers help staff either the El Moro Visitor Center on the inland side of the park or the Historic District Visitor Center. Mountain Bikers help patrol the backcountry and serve as the eyes and ears for the rangers who aren't able to drive down the single track trails. Finally, our Tidepool Creature Teachers educate the public about the fragile habitat. For more information contact Winter Bonnin at (949) 497-7647 or crystalcv@fea.net



Environmental Nature Center
1601 16th St., Newport Beach, CA 92663
(949) 645-8489

The Environmental Nature Center is looking for volunteer naturalists interested in helping with our numerous scout and community tours, office volunteers to work on an as needed basis, helping with mailers, data input, etc., and grounds volunteers to help maintain the grounds by weeding, watering and maintaining the trails. For more information contact Lori Whalen at 949-645-8489.



City of Irvine - Open Space
1 Sunnyhill Drive, Irvine, CA 92612
(949) 724-6738 Fax (949) 509-1375
www.irvineopenspace.org

The City of Irvine's Open Space Preserve at Bommer Canyon offers a diverse selection of weekend and weekday volunteer opportunities. Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy assisting with interpretive nature hikes, heart pumping cardio hikes and mountain bike rides. Additionally, we have many land steward projects for those interested in maintaining trails and restoration areas. Finally, for a slower pace, volunteers can also assist with various environmental education programs. For more information please contact Kevin Livergood at (949) 724-6738.



Laguna Canyon Foundation PO Box 4895, Laguna Beach, CA 92652
(949) 497-8324 Fax (949) 376-5590
www.lagunagreenbelt.org

Laguna Greenbelt Inc. (LGB)

LGB, Inc. is a grassroots organization founded in 1967 to promote the preservation of Orange County, California open space for the benefit of the general public, and to inform and educate the public about local natural history. Under the leadership of LGB there are numerous opportunities for volunteers at Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. LGB trains and manages the following park volunteer programs: meet and greet volunteers, volunteer naturalists who offer a regular schedule of guided park tours and volunteers who help with restoration and plant nursery activities. For more information about becoming a LGB volunteer call the park ranger at 949-923-2235.



Limestone Canyon & Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park
PO Box 156, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678
(949) 923- 2245
www.ocparks.com/whitingranch

Limestone Canyon & Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park encompasses over 5,000 acres of wilderness preserve. The park is home to a multitude of wildlife and plants, scenic vistas and rugged terrain. We have over 26 miles of trails and dirt roads following the wooded canyon bottoms and traversing the high ridges. We are looking for volunteers to help with trail maintenance, leading Nature Programs/Hikes, preparing slide presentations, and preparing bulletin board displays. We also need help with resource management, including mapping exotic plants and/or illegal trails, collecting plant & wildlife data, removal of exotic plants, and assisting with restoration projects. Call the park office for more information.



The Nature Conservancy - Irvine Ranch Land Reserve
2883 Irvine Blvd., Irvine, CA 92602
(714)832-7478

There are four ways to volunteer on The Irvine Ranch Land Reserve:

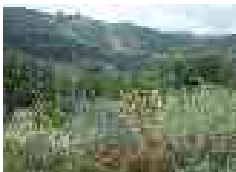
Occasional volunteers work as projects are scheduled, and as your time and interests allow.

Regular volunteers work on a recurrent basis assisting with restoration projects, outreach, etc.

Docent volunteers lead public tours on the reserve at least once per month. Special training required.

Land Steward volunteers assist with habitat restoration and trail maintenance plus the opportunity to assist with research and monitoring projects.

To learn more about these opportunities on the Irvine Ranch Land Reserve, contact The Nature Conservancy at (714)832-7478 or irvineranch@tnc.org



The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 802, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693
(949) 489-9778
www.theconservancy.org

The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy offers many volunteer opportunities. You can help with our regular monthly trail clearing (from October through June—and lunch is provided). You and your friends—or business associates—can adopt a woodland or grassland and help protect it from invasive non-native plants. The Conservancy offers field trips for elementary school students during the week and we need enthusiastic, child-loving “teachers” to work outdoors with 15 students at a time in the earth and biological sciences. (The curriculum is provided and easy to teach.) With some training, you can be a docent and lead tours of the reserve. We need occasional help in the office, and during our annual fundraiser(s). Are you an expert who would be willing to assist with fundraising, biology, or restoration? For more information, contact Laura Cohen at (949) 489-9778 or tdolc@lanset.com.



Orange County Natural History Museum
28373 Alicia Parkway, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
(949) 831-3287
www.ocnhm.org

The Orange County Natural History Museum is looking for a few great volunteers.

Join the museum as a docent to assist visitors by providing interesting information on the exhibits, assist with interactive activities, help us care for the live animals, sell items in the gift shop, maintain the facility, and keep daily records. Additional volunteer opportunities include leading nature walks in the adjacent wilderness park, program development, research, fossil preparation, garden stewards, and assist with special programs, lectures and fieldtrips sponsored by the Museum.

The Museum is located in Laguna Niguel at the entrance to Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 11 AM to 5 PM. Contact the museum (949) 831-3287 for additional information.



Orange County Zoo
1 Irvine Park Rd., Orange, CA 92862
(714) 973-6847
www.ocparks.com/oczoo

The Orange County Zoo is looking for adults interested in joining our docent program. Docents volunteer their time giving zoo tours to school children, scouts and day camps, assisting with zoo classes for children, doing storytime, staffing Discovery Carts, helping with special events, giving educational talks, and more! Docent training is provided. This is a great opportunity if you love animals, want to learn more about them, and enjoy interaction with both children and adults. For more information contact Marcy Crede-Booth, Zoo Education Coordinator at (714) 973-6846 or e-mail at Marcy.Crede@rdmd.ocgov.com.



Riley Wilderness Park
30952 Oso Parkway, Coto De Caza, CA 92679
(949) 923-2295
www.ocparks.com/rileypark

Riley Wilderness Park is as rich in local history as it is in native wildlife, providing opportunities for visitors to learn about the richness of this sanctuary. A place to experience firsthand, the intricate relationships between the park's wildlife and habitat, Riley Park offers a docent program with the opportunity to work on Outdoor Projects, Gift Shop Staffing, Garden Work - (trimming, putting irrigation lines to plants, repairing leaky lines), Senior Retires to assist with Visitors, Lead Groups on Nature Hikes, Help Staff Special Events, or Edit / Write articles for the newsletter.



Santiago Park & Nature Reserve
510 Memory Lane & 900 East Memory Lane, Santa Ana, CA
(714) 571-4288 Fax (714) 543-8767

Santiago Park & Nature Reserve has several opportunities available for enthusiastic volunteers. We have a Park Naturalist Explorer Program for youth (ages 18 & under), and an Adult Docent program for adults of all ages. We also have very popular habitat restoration days on the third Saturday of each month where volunteers help restore habitat with native plants throughout the Nature Reserve. We also provide Nature Reserve Interpretation Tours, and Native Plant Landscaping Workshops at our Native Plant Nursery. Please call Matt Shook at (714) 571-4244 for more information and volunteer opportunities.



Sea & Sage Audubon Society
(949) 261-7963
www.seaandsageaudubon.org

Would you like to make friends, enjoy nature, educate our community, and help conserve nature? Then join Sea & Sage Audubon Society, the largest Audubon chapter in Orange County, as we protect native birds and the habitat in which they live. We are looking for volunteers to staff the Audubon House, Naturalist Program and Summer Camp at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, a 300-acre freshwater wetland in Irvine. Volunteers can (1) greet visitors at the Audubon House during a 4-hour shift, (2) lead school children on a 2-hour outdoor wetland program, and (3) prepare activities for our summer bird camps. All volunteer should be friendly, enthusiastic and enjoy working with children. Contact Project Director of Education Trude Hurd.
