

## Stream Stewards Volunteer Position Description

**Title:** Ashokan Watershed Stream Stewards

### **Purpose of Position:**

The purpose of the stream stewards position is for residents of the Ashokan Watershed to get involved in stream-based projects in the community as a way to visibly model positive stream stewardship practices and assist the Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program in carrying out a wide range of community activities.

### **Responsibilities:**

1. Become informed of basic stream stewardship principles and practices by participating in one full-day training and attend four out of six half day or evening trainings.
2. Represent Cornell Cooperative Extension within the community, encourage enrollment in and support for the organization.
3. Participate in and assist program staff in organizing stream stewardship community based activities. Some examples of these activities may include but are not limited to stream cleanups, streamside restoration planting projects, working booths at community events, or stream-related art projects.

### **Expected Results:**

Community members will be involved in visible community-based stream projects that model and contribute to local stewardship of streams.

### **Training and Support:**

- Orientation to the Cornell Cooperative Extension System, its mission and that of the Stream Stewards Program.
- Orientation to the Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program and its partner agencies.
- Periodic opportunities to attend statewide, regional and national conferences. Participation is encouraged to expand your knowledge base.
- Access to Extension Educators, program staff, and partner agencies with knowledge and skills in stream management.

- Stream Stewardship Training Program including a one day Core Stream Basics Training as well as attendance at four out of six core workshops or activities per one year.
- Stream Stewards Coordinator

**Reporting:** Each Stream Steward Volunteer is expected to maintain records of time devoted to training and community activities (tracking forms are provided).

**Time Commitment:** Each Stream Steward Volunteer is expected to attend an annual one day Core Stream Basics Training and four out of six Core evening or weekend trainings or activities per year. Attend monthly meetings to maintain communication and organize the work of the program.

**Qualifications:**

- A basic interest in learning about stream stewardship principles and practices.
- Interest in involving others in the program.
- Verbal communication skills and ability to use email and internet.
- Able to follow program objectives and guidelines.
- A time schedule compatible with program activities.
- Willingness to volunteer time on stream stewardship projects and education activities that help meet the goals of the Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program.
- Ability to participate in physical activities such as stream cleanups or planting trees.

**Acceptance Requirements for Stream Steward Volunteers**

- Application
- Interview with Program Staff
- Criminal background check

**Benefits**

- Satisfaction of improving local streams through visible community service projects.
- Gain a deeper understanding of the science related to stream stewardship principles.
- Connection with people in your community with similar interests.



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