



Information for Volunteers

Garry Oak Ecosystem Restoration at Fort Rodd Hill and Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Sites

Fort Rodd Hill is a National Historic Site located in Colwood, 14 km west of downtown Victoria, BC. The Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Site adjoins the Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site.

Parks Canada works to restore Garry Oak and associated ecosystems on 54 hectares of land in and around the historic sites. These ecosystems are some of the rarest in Canada and are disappearing fast due to habitat loss from development and the encroachment of invasive species. More than 100 rare or endangered plant and animal species live in these beautiful ecosystems. Our volunteer program aims to improve public awareness of these rare ecosystems, provide valuable experience and knowledge and engage people in a fun and social way.



Garry Oak Ecosystem Volunteers 2014



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada

What to expect

Volunteers work as part of a team, learn about ecosystem function and protection, and develop skills and techniques used in Garry oak ecosystem restoration. Most of the work requires a minimum level of physical fitness; the terrain can be rocky and slippery when wet. Possible volunteer activities could include: seed sorting, seed sowing, seed collection, seed cleaning, outplanting, and invasive plant removal. The activities and work we plan will depend on restoration priorities and the experience and abilities of the volunteer(s).

Who can volunteer?

The only requirements are a willingness to learn, a minimum level of fitness, and a positive attitude. If you have questions or concerns about your ability to perform the work, contact us and we will do our best to plan volunteer work that suits your needs.

When can I volunteer?

Volunteers must contact us in advance to set up a time and date. There is no time requirement, but we recommend spending a minimum of 2-3 hours on site. Our regular hours of operation are 8:30am – 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. We also hold group volunteer days on weekends. Notifications of these events are sent to the people on the email list; email us to make sure you are on the list. If you have a specific time or date you (or a group you are part of) would like to volunteer we will do our best to accommodate you. We also encourage longer-term volunteers, who could work more closely with our full time restoration crew. Here is a list of the following dates for Saturday events in fall 2017: September 16 and 30, October 14, November 4 and 18, and December 9.

What do I need to bring?

- **Suitable footwear** (work boots or gum boots are ideal, closed toe shoes are a minimum)
- **Work clothes** (long pants and a long sleeved shirt, a hat for sun protection is recommended in summer, rain gear including rain pants is highly recommended all other times of year)
- **Sunscreen** (in the summer)
- **Water** (we recommend bringing at least 1 litre of water, especially in the summer)
- **Food** (we recommend you bring a lunch/snacks, there are no food services on site, lunch may be provided on group work days, contact us for details)



Garry Oak meadow flowers: camas and sea blush



The Propertius Duskywing, one of the rare species at Fort Rodd Hill

Contact Information

Please use the following phone number and email address to contact the coordinator of volunteers.

(250) 812-8133 and/or frh.volunteer@pc.gc.ca