



**Volunteer Today!**

**Hugh Taylor Birch State Park's  
Community Volunteer Program**

Hugh Taylor Birch State Park presents a dynamic volunteer program offering many unique opportunities for motivated individuals to participate as part of a state park team!

Our goal is to offer a volunteer program that enhances the mission of our park with diverse members of the community who bring their own skills, expertise and passion to our team. With your help as a volunteer, our park can expect to meet these exceptional standards.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a volunteer with the Florida Park Service and Hugh Taylor Birch State Park. Volunteers are invaluable assets who have made the Florida Park Service a national success by contributing over 1 million hours of volunteer service annually in support of our award-winning state park system.

Please see the following information regarding the many volunteer opportunities available at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park. A Florida Park Service staff member will train and/or supervise all positions listed below.

Most positions work with a combination of park staff and other volunteers. Once training is completed and volunteers have become acquainted as part of the team, individual assignments may be given. All positions require people who are self-motivated, have a strong work ethic, and the ability to work in teams of 2 or more people or effectively on their own.

The following are examples of potential volunteer positions. Please let us know your interest and experience in these positions. Inquire with the park's Volunteer Coordinator about job descriptions and availability of positions.

The following positions have been ordered according to availability:

- 1. Grounds Assistant**
- 2. Exotic Plant Removal**
- 3. Beach Gate Attendant**
- 4. Ranger Station Attendant**
- 5. Maintenance Assistant**
- 6. Youth Camp Assistant**
- 7. Special Event Assistant**
- 8. Living History Tour Guide**
- 9. Park Outdoor Tour Guide**
- 10. Sensitive Habitat Maintenance Assistant**
- 11. Volunteer Coordinator Assistant**
- 12. Friends of Birch State Park - Website Designer**
- 13. Friends of Birch State Park - Website Assistant**
- 14. Friends of Birch State Park - Membership Recruiting Assistant**

## **Volunteer Selection**

Volunteers are selected on a variety of factors. Experience is preferred but not required. We understand that a major draw for volunteers is to learn new skills, see new places and meet new people. Do not let any perceived shortcoming in experience ever deter you from applying for a volunteer position in the Florida Park Service. Training is provided and creative ideas are welcome.

Once your application is received and reviewed, you will be contacted by the park's Volunteer Coordinator for an initial interview and tour of the park. Applicants should be aware that a sexual predator background check is conducted on all applicants.

The Volunteer Coordinator, along with the park management, will determine the best volunteer position suited to the park's needs and your interests, skills and experience.

New volunteers will be asked to work a minimum of one month before specific titles are officially explored. Other training for certain positions will likely be required (such as tour guides and maintenance assistants). Within the first few weeks, new volunteers will be expected to move through the park's Volunteer Orientation and various training courses. These courses include:

**Park Volunteer Orientation**  
**Sexual Harassment Awareness Training**  
**Bloodborne Pathogen Training**

Once you have become a part of our team, and have expressed interest in positions that require specific training, talk to the Volunteer Coordinator to schedule the training. Types of training that are more specialized may include, but are not limited to, the following:

**Herbicide Application for Exotic Plant Removal**  
**Tractor/Skid-Steer Training**  
**In-house Basic Interpretation Training**  
**Visitor Center Interpretation**

## **How to Apply**

If you would like to become a Florida State Park Volunteer at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park, you need to fill out an application. You may fill out the Online Volunteer Application below and submit it. You can also print the application and mail it to the address provided below. You can also come to the park to fill out a paper application and request to meet with the park's Volunteer Coordinator. We hope to hear from you!

Mark E. Foley  
Park Services Specialist – Volunteer/Event Coordinator  
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park  
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### [Online Volunteer Application](#)

This electronic application goes to the Florida Park Service's Statewide Volunteer Coordinator who then forwards the application to parks you have selected as your first three choices for consideration. Please review the online park guide or individual park pages to discover which parks interest you most and list these parks on your application. Identifying specific parks of interest greatly increases your opportunity for a successful placement.

You may also download and print the [Volunteer Application](#) and submit/mail it to the park of your interest or mail it to the Coordinator of Volunteer Services at the above address.

For forms, information and benefits of volunteering visit [Get Involved](#).