



## Stewardship Volunteering

We are a grassroots, environmental non-profit established in 2007 and based in the Blue Water Area. Our mission is to provide fun, educational experiences that engage the community in the protection of their water resources. We promote scientific, volunteer-based water monitoring and watershed stewardship for the restoration and protection of the St. Clair River. We are primarily funded by grants, fundraisers and donations.

### What does it mean to be a Steward?

A Steward is defined as a caretaker, a person who manages another's property, or a person appointed by a group to supervise the affairs of that group. For Friends, a Steward is a person who makes a contribution of their time, knowledge, skills or funds to benefit the St. Clair River watershed or to build relationships between the river and the community. Everyone has unique gifts; not all will pull weeds, not all will lead tours. Teaching children about the natural world is stewardship, and so is picking up trash, developing your knowledge of native and invasive plants, and stream monitoring.

Friends relies on Stewards to promote, protect and conserve the St. Clair River and its watersheds. Being a Steward will be a rewarding part of your life!

### You Commit To:

- Attend stewardship committee meetings whenever possible (call-in option available)
- Volunteer for Friends events, activities, outings and community outreach
- Represent Friends to your friends, family and community
- Give permission for photos to be used in marketing materials and on social media
- Complete a Michigan ICHAT form, which allows a background check on you (only required for family events or working with children)
- Share your knowledge and passion for the environment
- Learn more and try new things so that you can continue to grow and share
- Report your monthly hours spent in service to or study to Friends

### We Commit To:

- Support your desire and believe in your vision to make the Blue Water Area a cleaner, greener, more sustainable place
- Track your hours and skills so we can tell our funders and the community about your great knowledge and work
- Update you on current and emerging environmental concerns and news in our region
- Keep you connected with like-minded individuals and organizations
- Provide educational resources, classes and workshops so you can develop your knowledge of local habitats and environmental issues
- Include you in our Current Week e-newsletter
- Offer exclusive fun events, activities and outings
- We give you one awesome free T-shirt