

# Volunteer Report

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting  
September 1, 2015

## August 2015 Highlights

- Washoe County Parks is participating in an initiative through UNR Student Engagement called “iLead Nevada”. The campaign is designed to foster leadership and civic responsibility. Rancho San Rafael will continue to be a site on a monthly basis, hosting about 15 volunteers last event.
- Volunteer Coordinator Denise Evans attended a “Service Palooza” located on the lawns outside of the Joe Crowley Student Union at UNR on the first day of school last Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. The goal was to educate students on volunteer opportunities in the community, and several students came by the table with an interest in volunteering with parks.
- Volunteer Coordinator Denise Evans also attended a “Face Forward” career faire at the Children’s Cabinet to interview potential candidates for an internship at the Arboretum. The Arboretum currently has one outstanding intern through this program, and is excited to add another. This is a work study based program, and Children’s Cabinet pays the interns.

## Upcoming Events

- The Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) Truckee River cleanup will take place on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. Participating Washoe County sites are: Crystal Peak Park, Mayberry Park, Dorostkar Park, and Ambrose Park. Due to limited staffing, we will be taking full advantage of our close relationship with park adopters NV Energy to oversee the efforts at Dorostkar and Ambrose. Work at the four parks will primarily focus on removal of noxious weeds and tree wrapping.
- We are extremely excited about a large scale volunteer event coming to Rancho San Rafael Park on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. We were approached by a group based out of San Francisco called *Hands On Bay Area* about putting together a proposal to accommodate approximately 200 AAA volunteers. *Hands On Bay Area* works with large corporations such as Google to coordinate and fund large volunteer events. After meeting with them and sharing ideas about how we could improve the Nevada Farms & Families area (used to be called GBA) at Rancho San Rafael, they chose us for the event. We will be receiving significant funding for supplies and possibly an additional monetary donation. Activities that day will include installing hand rails on the boardwalk, staining the hay barn, planting some trees, and other general maintenance and beautification projects. Afterwards the public will be invited to enjoy treats and see the reveal.

## **August Volunteer Hours/Value:**

*Last August, Rancho San Rafael Park had over 4500 hours from plastering, paint shop, carpentry, and welding work done by Job Corp throughout the month. Otherwise, volunteer activity in the other parks was relatively flat or slightly up.*

	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>August 2014</b>	<b>% Increase</b>	<b>Fiscal YTD 2015/2016</b>	<b>Fiscal YTD 2014/2015</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
# of Volunteer Hrs	1,801.25	6,001.25	<b>-69.9%</b>	3,840.10	8,582.25	<b>-55.3%</b>
# of Intern Hrs	360	343.75	<b>4.7%</b>	517	660.75	<b>-21.8%</b>
Total Dollar Value*	\$49,860.04	\$143,079.75	<b>-65.2%</b>	\$100,518.30	\$208,429.65	<b>-51.8%</b>

\*The hourly rate of \$23.07 used for calculating the dollar value is based on the estimated national value of volunteer time as reported by [www.independentsector.org](http://www.independentsector.org).