

Volunteer Report

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting
February 2, 2016

January 2016 Highlights

- The Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation hosted a BioBlitz and community cleanup at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park in the Black Springs area of Reno on Monday, January 18th. Forty-five volunteers, including students and teachers from Tahoe Expedition Academy, helped to clean up litter and illegal dumping in and around the park. Martin Luther King Day is a nationally recognized day of community service.
- Starting the January 2016 volunteer report, YTD volunteer hours will be reported by calendar year as opposed to fiscal year. Inclement weather dampened many group volunteer projects in January resulting in lower volunteer numbers compared to last year. However, intern hours increased due to the addition of one Children's Cabinet intern assigned to the park rangers at Rancho San Rafael Park, in addition to the one Job Corp intern assigned to the May Arboretum.

January Volunteer Hours/Value:

	January 2016	January 2015	% Increase	Total for YTD 2016	Compared to YTD 2015	% Increase
# of Volunteer Hrs	636	650.5	-2.3%	636	650.5	-2.3%
# of Intern Hrs	144	72	100%	144	72	100%
Total \$\$\$ Value*	\$17,994.60	\$16,089.02	11.8%	\$17,994.60	\$16,089.02	11.8%

*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.

Upcoming Events

- The *Horticultural Training for Arboretum Volunteers* series is the largest recruitment tool of the year for Arboretum volunteers. This year's series will begin early in order to be completed by the WCSD spring break, running from Tuesday, Feb. 23 – Tuesday, March 15. Prospective volunteers participate in 10 classes covering a variety of subjects that are directly applicable to volunteering at the Arboretum. Garden tours, presentations by local area experts, demonstrations, and hands on opportunities to practice are incorporated into the training. The goal is to have 30 participants, with the hopes that they will become long term stewards of the Arboretum.
- We have clearly succeeded in making connections with students at the University of Nevada, Reno as we are already receiving several calls from student groups to set up volunteer activities in spring. In fact, our first scheduled volunteer activity for this year with the ASUN Center for Student Engagement will take place at Rancho San Rafael Park on Saturday, January 30th.

Crossroads in partnership with Washoe County Parks work crews

- Total number of participants/volunteers from Jan. 1 – 23: 68