

About the Program

The Habitat Stewards Volunteer Program is unlike any other program. As a volunteer, you will receive 24 hours of training for habitat management for our coastal environments including how to improve and care for natural resources, protect and observe wildlife, and monitor and manage nature trails. Each volunteer will be given a choice of locations and range of activities in association with project partners: Mississippi Coastal Preserves (MS Department of Marine Resources), MS Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge and Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain .

Program classes take place in spring and fall.

Become a *Habitat Steward* - one of a dedicated team of outdoor enthusiasts committed to preserving, managing and monitoring public lands and natural areas along the Mississippi coast.



Celebrating 75 years
of protecting wildlife



Habitat Stewards of Coastal Mississippi with National Wildlife Federation and Mississippi Wildlife Federation



For more information or to become a Habitat Steward, contact Cynthia or Leah, Natural Capital Development, 228-875-1032 or info@habitatstewards.org

**Do you enjoy the outdoors? Receive a thrill from planting a tree?
Take pleasure in rooting out invasive species like Chinese tallow trees?
Do you like making a difference for our world and its critters?**

Be A Habitat Steward!

National Wildlife Federation and Mississippi Wildlife Federation are joining with managers of South Mississippi natural areas to create a team of well-trained and dedicated volunteers to protect nature along the Coast.



Potential volunteer activities include:

- Plant native grasses, shrubs and trees
- Observe wildlife for impacts from the Oil Spill
- Help control weeds and animal pests control invasive species like kudzu and nutria that choke out our native plants and animals
- Build or repair trails and public access sites in natural areas
- Remove storm debris and litter
- Keep natural areas beautiful, safe and healthy for future generations



Our natural areas need ongoing care. But, too often in our cash-strapped state, funding for the long-term care of our natural areas is limited. These areas require constant care to remain healthy. There is over 100,000 acres of land to monitor and only limited funding and staff resources. The new Habitat Steward Volunteers will be able to work with land managers on our federal, state, and local natural areas to make a real difference for our wildlife and habitats.

With your help, we can look after our wildlife and provide safe, beautiful natural areas for future generations. Habitat Steward Volunteers will be a unique group, trained to care for natural areas and to maintain safe, clean areas for the public to enjoy. After completing 24 hours of free training, volunteers will choose from a variety of locations and activities designed for all skill levels and abilities.

