



VIPs are Volunteers-in-Parks



For more information about volunteering

Call: 973-539-2016 ext 230

Email: MORR_VIP@nps.gov

Write: Volunteer Coordinator
Morristown National
Historical Park
30 Washington Place
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

For General Park Information:
www.nps.gov/morr

or Call: 973-539-2016 ext 210



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VIPs are Very Important People

Volunteering is an American tradition that has made an immeasurable contribution to communities, organizations, and individuals throughout the country. Today's volunteers are active, dynamic, creative individuals who possess the skills, desire, patience, and time to accomplish a wide variety of tasks.

Volunteers-In-Parks are Very Important People (VIPs). Each year thousands of volunteers donate millions of hours working in national parks. Some VIPs work as individuals and others work as part of organized groups.

VIPs come from all over the world to help preserve and protect America's natural and cultural heritage for the enjoyment of this and future generations.



Morristown National Historical Park



During two critical winters of the Revolutionary War, 1777 and 1779 – 80, the countryside in and around Morristown, sheltered the main encampments of the American Continental Army and served as the headquarters of General George Washington. The National Park Service at Morristown National Historical Park preserves sites in the Morristown area occupied by the Continental Army and interprets the history and subsequent commemoration of these encampments and the extraordinary fortitude of the officers and enlisted men under Washington's leadership.

Combined, the museum, archival and library collection hold over 350,000 items. Spanning the 15th through the 20th centuries, the collection represents one of the finest and most carefully assembled resources in the area. Exhibits based on the park's holdings are designed to reflect this richness and incorporate the manifold stories of our themes.

How may I help at Morristown National Historical Park?

Administration:

- Part-time reception duties
- Assist with clerical tasks and filing

Museum and archival:*

- Catalogue artifacts and archives
- Transcribe historical documents
- Assist with cleaning historical houses
- Conduct historical research
- Prepare finding-aids for archives and records

Interpretation — Education Programs and Visitor Services:

- Lead guided tours of the Ford Mansion
- Present short programs in museum galleries
- Staff information desks at Jockey Hollow and Washington's Headquarters Museum
- Conduct living history demonstrations at Wick house and at the soldier huts

Resources management and maintenance:

- Assist with mowing, leaf and snow removal
- Conduct hands-on tasks such as repairing fences, installing signs and painting
- Assist with cleaning of public areas, dusting and vacuuming
- Maintain apple orchard, planting of new trees, pruning older trees
- Monitor wildlife and plants in "enclosure pens"
- Help remove invasive non-native plants

Visitor protection and outdoor bulletin boards:

- Assist with traffic, crowd control and parking during special events
- Maintain bulletins boards and wayside exhibit panels



Trails crew:

- Clear, maintain and repair hiking and equestrian trails in Jockey Hollow, Fort Nonsense and the New Jersey Brigade areas
- Clear brush and limbs along trails and around buildings
- Pick-up litter along hiking trails and roadways
- Maintain and repair trail bridges and drainage systems

Cross Estate formal gardens:

- Located in the New Jersey Brigade Area — a project of the New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation
- Participate in Weekly Work Day — Wednesdays from March to November
- Help maintain and develop the walled perennial garden and native garden
- Propagate plants
- Assist with workshops and special events

Wick House garden:

- Located in the Jockey Hollow unit — a project of the Northern New Jersey Unit of the Herb Society of America.
- Participate in weekly work day — Tuesday mornings from April to November
- Help tend the 18th century garden
- Learn the names and uses of over 150 herbs, which were an integral part of colonial life
- Annual Harvest Celebration is held on the grounds of the Wick House on the first Sunday of October. This event supports the garden.

** Some work may require specialized knowledge.*

VIP Mission

The primary purpose of the VIP program is to provide a vehicle through

which the National Park Service can accept and utilize voluntary help and services from the public. The major objective of the program is to utilize this voluntary help in such a way that is mutually beneficial to the National Park Service and the volunteer.

Volunteers are accepted from the public without regard to race, creed, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

