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**Application Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Contact Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Name |  |
| Street Address |  |
| City, State, Area Code |  |
| Phone Number |  |
| Alternate Phone Number |  |
| E-mail Address |  |

**Are you a full-time or part-time resident in Highlands?**

**Full-Time Part-Time**

**Availability:**

Please indicate the days and times you are available for volunteer assignments:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day/Time** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** | **Sunday** |
| **AM** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PM** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Please circle the months of the year you are available to volunteer:**

**Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec**

**Interests & Objectives:**

Tell us why you are interested in volunteering and which garden area you would be interested in ‘adopting’ (see descriptions below):

**Experiences & Skills:**

Briefly summarize any skills, qualifications, or work experience that may be relevant:

**Outreach:**

How did you learn about the Highlands Biological Station?

How did you learn about the volunteer program?

**Adopt-A-Garden Descriptions:**

**Bog Garden:** An area of rich biodiversity, the mountain bog garden is home to several carnivorous plant species. In addition, woody vegetation and herbaceous perennials flank the exterior of the garden. This garden is beautiful year-round and offers the exciting opportunity to conserve and preserve the open bog habitat necessary for species to survive.

**Azalea Walk:** For those fond of deciduous azalea species, adopting the Azalea Walk will offer the opportunity to work with them up close and personal. Other species like “Jack-in-the-Pulpit” and our prized Oconee Bells” are also included in this area. Persons with full or dappled sun will find the ‘adoption process’ to be beneficial for ideas to implement at home.

**Pollinator Garden:** A playground for the amateur (or professional) entomologist! Our burgeoning pollinator garden is home to an immense array of sun-loving perennials and woody shrubs. This garden offers immense gratification come summertime and yet is scaled at a manageable size.

**Cherokee Demonstration Garden:** An area of importance both botanically and within the natural heritage of Western North Carolina, this garden has immense significance. A mix of sun and shade, adopting this garden would offer the opportunity to connect with the Cherokee Nation and collaborate on continual plant introductions of both cultural and ethnobotanical significance.

**Fern Walk:** Bryophyte lovers and enthusiasts, this one’s for you! “Fancy Fern”, “Cinnamon Fern”, “Royal Fern”, “Sensitive Fern”, and more. This area is lush with vegetation and offers the fun and exciting chance to get familiar with our native fern species.

**Botanical Garden Trails & Areas:** Within the historical Botanical Garden there are a number of trails and informal garden areas that can be tended to. Whether you’re a seasoned trail builder or a novice home gardener, these areas can offer a wide variety of opportunities.

*Training for any positions will be provided by the Highlands Biological Station Horticultural Specialist and additional training will be given by seasoned volunteers.*

**Agreement & Signature:**

By submitting this application, I affirm that the information written is true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted as a volunteer, I agree to a background check if necessary, to be conducted by Western Carolina University. Furthermore, I understand that as a volunteer, I will uphold the mission of the Gardens and agree to follow all guidelines and policies set forth by the Highlands Biological Station and Western Carolina University. I understand that I will be required to fulfill the training requirements of whatever position(s) I choose to participate in. I am aware HBS has the right to release me from my volunteer service at any time.

I also understand that my picture may be used for publications and/or electronic media. I grant Highlands Biological Station and Foundation the right to use my name, likeness, and photograph(s) in all media.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Signature |  |
| Date |  |
| *If applicant is under 18…* |  |
| Parent/Guardian Name |  |
| Parent/Guardian Signature |  |
| Date |  |

**Policy:**

It is the policy of the Highlands Biological Station and Western Carolina University to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, or disability. Any requests for reasonable accommodation must be brought to the attention of staff and will be remediated as needed.

**Emergency Contact:**

In case of emergency, who would you like us to notify?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Medical Information we should be aware of: (Optional)

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