



2016 Annual Volunteer Report

Volunteer Statistics Summary

21,954 DNR Volunteers
268,817 Hours Donated

129 FTE's (Full Time Equivalents based on a 40-hour work week or 2,080 hours/year.) Volunteer hours are equivalent to an extra 5% or 129 full-time people helping the DNR manage the state's natural resources.

\$6.3 Million Value – using \$23.56/hour is based on the hourly national earnings of all production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls average as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and increased by 12 percent to estimate for fringe benefits as listed by [Independent Sector](#).

Conservation Impacts – Volunteers monitored changes in abundance of fish and wildlife, conducted biological surveys, improved acres of habitat, educated and engaged citizens in outdoor activities, safety and conservation practices.

Division	Volunteer Position	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours	Conservation Impacts
Ecological and Water Resources	Eco Waters Volunteers	135	135	Built custom seed mixes for restoration projects
	Invasive Species Monitoring	4	113	Lakes and waters affected; updated data on infested waters
	Lake Level Monitoring	850	8200	Lakes and waters affected
	MN County Biological Survey	82	642	22 biological surveys completed
	MN Frog and Toad Calling Survey	215	2150	Monitored changes in abundance and range - frogs and toads are sensitive environmental quality indicators

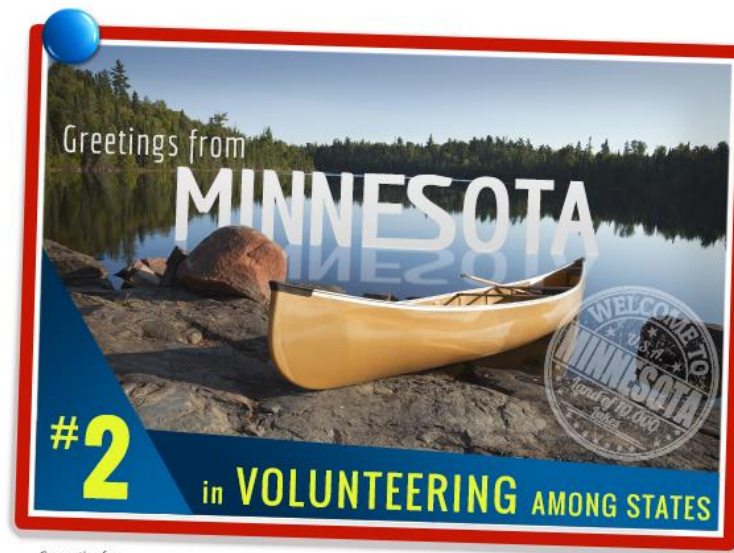
Division	Volunteer Position	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours	Conservation Impacts
Ecological and Water Resources	MN Loon Monitoring Program	850	2550	Monitored change in abundance of wildlife
	Mussel Lab Program	3	70	Assisted with lab work and mussel survey
	Nongame Wildlife Program	6	513	Nesting success increased in St Louis Estuary
	Precipitation Observers	1248	18708	Monitored precipitation statewide
	Rare Plant Conservation	23	538	Biological surveys completed
	Scanning permits, filing and data entry	8	409	Paper reduction, added ease, organization, and productivity
	Scientific and Natural Areas	861	2205	Acres of habitat improved through restoration, site observations, garbage removal, biological surveys and outreach events.
	State Fair Volunteers (EAB costume and exhibit)	24	104	Adults and youth educated about Emerald Ash Borer and stopping spread of invasive species
	Volunteer Loon Watcher Survey	826	9912	Biological surveys completed
	Watercraft Inspection Program	79	1060	Boaters educated about stopping the spread of aquatic invasive species
	Eco/Water Resources Subtotal	5,214	47,309	
Enforcement	Advanced and Bow Hunter Education Instructors	231	2195	Adults and/or youth educated
	Firearms Safety Instructors	3846	76920	Adults and/or youth educated
	Snowmobile Safety Instructors	1197	14364	Adults and/or youth educated
	Trail Ambassadors	177	5980	Adults and/or youth educated
	Youth ATV Safety Instructors	874	5244	Adults and/or youth educated
	CO Academy assistance - actors	22	606	Conservation Officer candidates trained in "real life" scenarios
	Assist with BWCA enforcement trip	1	80	Assisted with paddling canoe, portaging, making camp, etc.
	Enforcement Subtotal	6,348	105,389	

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Fish & Wildlife	Area Fisheries Volunteers	13	492	Fish surveys completed
	Aquatic Management Areas	1	7	Notched beaver dam for stream maintenance
	Angler Recruitment/Retention/Mentoring	168	2970	Approximately 5700 adults and/or youth engaged in activity
	Fishing in the Neighborhood Program	3	93	Maintenance of fish nets and fishing poles for outreach to educate youth and/or adults
	MinnAqua Aquatic Education Program	42	252	245 adults and youth engaged in fishing activity
	Sampling Fish	169	531	39 biological surveys completed
	Stocking Fish	2	35	Affected change in abundance of fish by stocking trout and walleye
	Tagging Fish	5	40	Biological surveys completed – population estimate
	Fisheries Subtotal	403	4,420	
	Adopt-a-Wildlife Management Area	15	151	25 acres of habitat improved
	Area Wildlife Volunteers	75	2657	14 miles of WMAs posted with boundary signs, 1500 ft. of goose fence (depredation elimination), garbage removed from 10 miles of road and 8 parking lots, 2 public water accesses improved, 8 miles of walking trail cleared, prescribed burning on 690 acres, habitat management planning on 19,588 acres (93 WMA's)
	Becoming an Outdoor Woman (BOW) Program	58	1634	Adults and youth engaged in activities
	Bird Banding	42	939	Banded birds used to track their movements and harvest data (500+ Canada Goose and 132 Woodcock)

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Fish & Wildlife	Hunter Recruitment/Retention/Mentoring	186	7430	930 adults and/or youth engaged in activity
	Special Hunts	1	16	1278 adults and/or youth engaged in activity
	State Fair (Wildlife Wing)	18	204	MN Master Naturalists educated adults and youth on wildlife
	Wildlife Research	51	3747	Studied 29 bears, planted 130 vegetation plots, collected data on moose winter nutrition and calf survival study
	Wildlife Subtotal	446	16,778	
Forestry	Forest Inventory	1	22	Biological surveys completed
	Fire Wardens	3705	22,230	Thousands of acres protected by issuing burning permits to citizens
	Forestry Outreach Volunteers	13	40	Acres of land protected or restored
	PlayCleanGo Volunteers	35	130	10,000+ adults and youth educated on stopping spread of invasive species
	Project Learning Tree (PLT)	1	25	300 adults and youth were educated
	School Forests	260	1836	Adults and youth educated in forestry
	State Fair Volunteers (Smokey Bear, parade, Fire Prevention Day)	38	174	15,000 adults and youth were educated on fire prevention
	Forestry Subtotal	4,053	24,457	
Lands & Minerals	LAM Volunteers	4	66	Scanned historical maps and reports
	Lands & Minerals Subtotal	4	66	
Operations Services	Landscape Management/ Regional Office Campus	210	705	4+ acres restored and 1.5 miles of stream cleaned twice
	Conservation Policy work	1	96	Partnerships achieved in conservation
	Photo shoots	2	12	Modeled personal floatation devices and water safety techniques
	Outreach events	62	158	1,030 adults and youth engaged in activities

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Operations Services	State Fair Volunteers (stages)	476	1997	Thousands of adults and youth educated on environmental topics
	OSD Subtotal	751	2,968	
Parks & Trails	Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers	10	50	State water trail cleanup
	Bluebird Monitoring	34	1846	Monitored change in abundance of bluebirds in nesting boxes
	Campground Hosts	182	28560	Maintained campgrounds and facilities, provided customer services, served as public contact and aided with safety in parks
	Candlelight Ski/Hike Events	300	1370	Adults and youth engaged in activity
	Green Touch Day	246	1102	Installed fire rings, raked campgrounds, and bud capped trees to protect from deer
	I CAN! Program Series	9	71	1327 adults and youth engaged in activity
	Marina Hosts	2	734	Maintained and cleaned marina area and kept public informed
	Naturalist Programs	860	4551	Thousands of adults and youth engaged in activities and educated on nature topics
	Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Area	30	180	8 miles of trail improved or restored
	Other State Park Projects	337	5476	Improved appearance of park grounds, stacked firewood, cared for visitor center animals, etc.
	Prairie Restoration	662	1722	46 acres of land restored to native prairie
	Resource Management	1389	4155	172 acres of land protected or restored
	Shade Tree Planting	20	40	Habitat improved
	Special Events	30	230	Adults and youth engaged in activities

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Parks & Trails	Trail Maintenance	582	16,666	142 miles of trail improved, restored or built
	Trails and Waterways Recreation Area Volunteers	42	657	Built and improved 3 carry-in public water accesses and a portage trail
	Parks & Trails Subtotal	4,735	67,410	
Volunteer Totals for 2016		21,954	268,817	



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National Volunteer Statistics

- Based on the latest statistics compiled by the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#), **Minnesota ranked #2 in the nation** for volunteering in 2015 with 1,560,667 volunteers donating 155.41 million hours of service at a value of \$3.3 billion.
- Minneapolis-St Paul was ranked #1** in volunteering among large cities in the U.S. The Twin Cities was ranked #2 in college students and #2 in Millennials volunteering.