



2017 Annual Volunteer Report

Volunteer Statistics Summary

23,164 DNR Volunteers

280,419 Hours Donated

135 FTE's (Full Time Equivalent based on a 40-hour work week or 2,080 hours/year.) Volunteer hours are equivalent to an extra 5% or 135 full-time people helping the DNR manage the state's natural resources.

\$7.4 Million Value – using \$26.40/hour is based on the hourly earnings of all Minnesota 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.

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.

Division	Volunteer Position	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours	Conservation Impacts
Ecological and Water Resources	Climatology Volunteer	1	144	Lake Ice In/Out; Precipitation quality control
	Invasive Species Monitoring	2	32	4 Lakes and waters affected
	Lake Level Monitoring	900	8730	Lakes and waters info used for decision making
	MN County Biological Survey	99	1,229	Biological surveys completed; rare snakes documented
	MN Frog and Toad Calling Survey	245	2,450	Change in abundance and range
	MN Loon Monitoring Program	800	2400	Change in abundance of wildlife
	Nongame Wildlife Program	13	647	21 biological surveys completed including Northern long-eared bats and Blanding's turtle nests
	Precipitation Observers	1,429	17,148	Monitored Minnesota's climate
	Project WILD	1	8	22 youth and adults educated
	Rare Plant Conservation	50	788	Biological surveys completed
	Scanning permits, filing and data entry	6	310	Paper reduction, added ease, organization, and productivity
	Scientific and Natural Areas	744	1,837	Acres of habitat improved by garbage removal, site observations, biological surveys and outreach events.
	State Fair Volunteers (EAB costume and exhibit)	25	103	Adults and youth educated about Emerald Ash Borer and stopping spread of invasive species
	Volunteer Loon Watcher Survey	940	10,340	Change in abundance of wildlife
	Watercraft Inspection Program	173	1,260	Boaters educated how to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species
	Eco/Waters Resources Subtotal		5,428	47,426

Division	Volunteer Position	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours	Conservation Impacts
Enforcement	Advanced and Bow Hunter Education Instructors	119	1692	Adults and/or youth educated
	Firearms Safety Instructors	4102	82040	Adults and/or youth educated
	Snowmobile Safety Instructors	1318	15816	Adults and/or youth educated
	Trail Ambassadors	178	5909	Adults and/or youth educated
	Youth ATV Safety Instructors	960	5760	Adults and/or youth educated
	BWCA trips	1	50	Paddling, portaging and camping safety taught
	Enforcement Subtotal	6,678	111,267	
Fish & Wildlife - Fish	Area Fisheries Volunteers	16	96	Fish surveys completed
	Aquatic Management Areas	246	692	21.1 acres of habitat improved
	Angler Recruitment/Retention/Mentoring	136	2374	Approximately 3700 adults and/or youth engaged in activity
	Fishing in the Neighborhood Program	4	25	5 biological surveys completed
	Sampling Fish	167	1200	46 biological surveys completed
	Shoreland Habitat Program	10	30	0.1 miles of habitat improved
	Stocking Fish	10	46	Affected change in abundance of fish by stocking walleye, Northern pike, muskies
	Tagging Fish	12	60	Biological surveys completed – population estimate
	Walleye Spawning	16	92	Change in abundance of fish
	Fisheries Subtotal	617	4,615	

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Fish & Wildlife - Wildlife	Area Wildlife Management Volunteers	384	2039	45 acres of habitat improved; 4.2 miles of trail built; built and maintained 36 bluebird boxes; checked 5 acres of food plots; 11,000 hardwood tree seedlings planted on 16 acres of land; 400 tree tubes installed to protect from deer browse; 7 lbs. of seed harvested; WMAs posted with boundary signs; photography
	Becoming an Outdoor Woman (BOW) Program	72	1430	Adults and youth engaged in activities
	Bird Banding	16	134	Banded birds used to track their movements and harvest data
	Hunter Recruitment/Retention/Mentoring	276	5140	229 adults and/or youth engaged in activity
	Prairie Chicken and Ruffed Grouse Surveys	2	18	6 Biological surveys completed
	State Fair (Wildlife Wing)	20	189	MN Master Naturalists educated adults and youth on wildlife
	Wildlife Research	19	3624	Conducted 150 bear food surveys; 4 wetland samplings; Spring breeding bird surveys on 5 sites; 6 biological studies completed; collected data on moose winter nutrition study
	Wildlife Subtotal		789	12,574

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Forestry	Fire Wardens	3,705	22,230	Thousands of acres protected by issuing burning permits to citizens	
	Forestry Outreach Volunteers	5	65	Sanded and varnished tree cookies for State Fair exhibit	
	Forestry Volunteers	9	121	State Forest trail trimmed, signs repaired and bird houses built for Fire Warden recognition	
	PlayCleanGo Volunteers	12	34	Adults and youth educated on stopping spread of invasive species	
	Project Learning Tree (PLT)	19	280	Adults were educated	
	School Forests	356	8367	Adults and youth educated in forestry	
	State Fair Volunteers (Smokey Bear)	21	106	Hundreds of adults and youth were educated on fire prevention	
	Forestry Subtotal		4,127	31,203	
	Operations Services	Landscape Management	6	18	600 live stakes of black ash planted
Planning and Policy work		1	181	Monarch butterfly conservation and furbearer management policy	
Photography		9	71	Modeled for promotional brochure; editing and filing photos	
Outreach events		25	120	820 adults and youth engaged in activities	
State Fair Volunteers (stages)		390	3,805	Thousands of adults and youth educated on environmental topics	
OSD Subtotal			431	4,195	

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Lands & Minerals	LAM Volunteers	30	878	Organized historical mineral archives
	Lands & Minerals Subtotal	30	878	
Parks & Trails	Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers	85	1853	State water trail cleanup
	Bluebird Monitoring	17	887	Monitored change in abundance of bluebirds in nesting boxes; 41 biological surveys completed
	Campground Hosts	207	29,615	Maintained campgrounds and facilities, provided customer services, served as public contact and aided with safety in parks
	Candlelight Ski/Hike Events	232	958	2,200+ Adults and youth engaged in activity
	Green Touch Day	214	962	Built tent pads, raked campgrounds, and picked up trash
	I CAN! Program Series	10	113	2,343 adults and youth engaged in activity
	Naturalist Programs	863	5845	11,500+ 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	781	6397	Bird counts, Bison Ambassadors, trail grooming, storm cleanup, biological surveys completed, built bat houses, pit toilets, mailings, office help

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Parks & Trails	Prairie Restoration	631	1636	95 acres of land restored to native prairie
	Resource Management	1382	6685	178 miles of habitat improved; 300 white pine trees bud capped
	Shade Tree Planting	7	14	25 trees planted and caged to protect from deer browse
	Special Events	203	1055	Adults and youth engaged in Fat Bike Rally, Outdoor Recreation Day, MPR promotion, Spring cleanup, research and surveys
	Trail Maintenance	402	12,061	191 miles of trail improved, restored or built
	Parks & Trails Subtotal	5,064	68,261	
Volunteer Totals for 2017		23,164	280,419	



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 SERVICE** ***

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