

TRAIL PARTNERS

YOUR TRAILS NEED YOUR HELP

STIC (Stockton Trails Initiative Coalition) is looking for area organizations, group, families or individuals to become partners in a trail maintenance initiative to sustain trails around Stockton and Stockton Lake.

Maintaining trails is more costly and time consuming than building trails!

Our goal is to keep all trails in the Stockton Lake/Stockton area free of trash, overgrown weeds, fallen trees, etc. by establishing an organized and unified community effort.

We are asking you, your group or family to become a **Trail Partner**. It is easy!

Trail Partner Guidelines:

- Most of the work will be on Corps Of Engineers (COE) land
- Picking up trash on trails (bags will be provided) and disposing of trash in designated bins. Make arrangement during weekdays for trash bag pickup and disposal site
- Work gloves are recommended and can be provided
- Moving debris (small fallen branches, etc.)
- Reporting trail issues (fallen trees/erosion/overgrowth, etc.) to the COE office
- No spraying of weeds or chemicals, use of chainsaws or heavy equipment unless previously authorized and specified
- No motorized vehicles for work days without prior approval
- Each group will be responsible for maintaining a specific trail or section of a trail
- Each group can either provide their own hand tools (loppers, hand limb saws) needed to clear/clean trails or can request equipment in advance
- Work must take place during daylight hours
- Each person in a **Trail Partner** group must sign a one time volunteer form before being allowed to work on the trails. Any one under the age of 18 must have written permission from parent or legal guardian attached to their volunteer form.
- There must be at least one adult chaperon with each group at all times
- Transportation to and from trails is group's/individual's responsibility
- Groups and individuals must provide their own water
- Pictures of your volunteer day are highly encouraged to be sent to STIC for use on the websites or publication in the newspapers. Signing the agreement and the individual volunteer form gives release to use pictures and names for publication in newspapers and websites.
- Some trails will require a bit more work than others. A representative will discuss details of each trail length and need so you can determine which fits best. An estimate of time is 6-8 hours per year for 2-6 people per trail section. However, it depends on the trail section length and condition at the time.
- Trails are located between Hawker Point (southern boundary) and the Stockton Lake Dam (northern boundary)

- The **Trail Partner** and the COE will determine the exact day for the trail work. If the day must be rescheduled due to inclement weather, consult with COE office
- When you call to schedule/confirm your **Trail Partner** work day, the name and phone number of a COE ranger will be given to you as a contact for that day and you will be advised as to specific needs the trail may have
- There are over 10 trail sections that need to be maintained. Every effort will be made to assign you to the trail of your choice, if you have one, but this cannot be guaranteed. Otherwise, when you call to arrange your day, you will be assigned a trail or trail section based on maintenance need
- Preferably, a two year partnership will be formed per group. This can be extended for any length by mutual agreement
- STIC will maintain a master list of **Trail Partners** and maintenance schedule on its website: www.stocktonmotrails
- Each **Trail Partner** will be recognized on the TRAIL OF RECOGNITION in the COE office lobby
- Any individual (within a group or alone) that completes 100 hours of volunteer trail maintenance as a **Trail Partner** within a consecutive 12 month period will receive an Annual Day Pass that can be used at any COE facility. (This means a person can be part of several groups or work as an individual but does not include work done as part of other trail work days e.g. Annual Lake Clean Up, etc.)
- Each individual that completes 10 hours of work in the 12 months Jan - Dec as part of this program (not other trail work volunteer days) will receive a STIC shirt or other similar item from STIC.
- Other specific conditions may apply as needed depending on trail requirements. These will be discussed at the time of scheduling
- If you want to help with trails in Stockton State Park or MDC area please call them at:
Stockton State Park: 417-276-4259 or MDC: 417-326-5189

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Application and Agreement

We (I) have read, understand and agree with the **Trail Partners** guidelines and want to become a **Trail Partner**.

Group (or Individual) Name: _____

Group Leader: _____

Contact Ph # _____ Email _____

Number of people in your group to work as **Trail Partners** _____

We (I) prefer to work on:

_____ any trail

_____ specific trail or area _____

Please submit this at the COE office located just west of the Stockton Lake Dam. Your group or individual contact will be called to make arrangements and answer questions. Before any work can be done the following must be complete:

CHECKLIST:

_____ Group Leader (individual) has signed this form and discussed potential assignments and agreement with COE representative

_____ All group and individual volunteers have signed the COE Volunteer form and COE has on file (COE Volunteer forms can be picked up at the COE office OR downloaded from the STIC website www.stocktonmotrails.com)

Group Leader or Individual

Date

COE Representative

Date