

## Invasive Species Removal Volunteer

**Why this role is necessary:** An invasive species removal volunteer supports the health and balance of local ecosystems. These non-native plants often outcompete native species for resources, disrupt habitats, and reduce diversity. By removing invasive species, volunteers help ensure that native flora and fauna can thrive.

**When and Where:** Statewide opportunities as needed

**Description:** As an Invasive Species Removal Volunteer with the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF), you play a key role in protecting and preserving the natural ecosystems of Pennsylvania's state parks and forests. This role involves hands-on work to identify and remove non-native species that threaten local flora and fauna, contributing to the overall health and sustainability of these vital landscapes.

### Responsibilities:

- Learn to identify invasive species and report their presence to park staff
- Participate in organized removal to physically remove invasive plants from designated areas
- Adhere to established protocols and safety guidelines to ensure effective and environmentally responsible removal
- Assist in documenting removal activities, including species removed, locations, and any observations
- Promote awareness about the impact of invasive species and encourage others to support conservation efforts

### Qualifications Needed:

- Ability to work outdoors in various weather conditions and terrains
- Ability to perform physical labor which involves bending and pulling
- Strong commitment to following safety guidelines and operational procedures

**Tools Necessary:** Work gloves will be provided, but please note that we have a limited range of sizes available. If you have specific sizing needs or preferences, you might want to consider bringing your own gloves to ensure a comfortable fit

**Benefits to Volunteer:** As an Invasive Species Removal Volunteer, you'll contribute directly to the health and sustainability of Pennsylvania's state parks and forests, gaining valuable hands-on experience in environmental conservation. This role allows you to connect with like-minded individuals who share a passion for protecting natural landscapes while supporting a meaningful cause. Additionally, you'll deepen your understanding of ecological management and invasive species control, making a tangible impact on preserving the state's natural beauty and diversity.