

Trail Volunteer Guidelines

The goal of volunteer trail workers at Stromlo Forest Park (SFP) is to assist park management with the basic maintenance of existing trails within the park. Volunteer trail work must be carried out only by volunteers who are supervised by a representative from SFP during agreed times. Volunteer work must be performed only in areas that have been approved by SFP management. Any trail work outside of approved and organised trail work times is strictly prohibited.

Whilst carrying out any trail work, volunteers must-

- Read, understand and sign a Stromlo Forest Park Contractor Induction card.
- Sign in and out of the site using the 'Stromlo Forest Park volunteer sign on' sheet.
- Submit a works program to the Venue Manager describing the location (trail or trail section), names of volunteers, type of work performed and the time and duration of the work.
- A risk plan may be requested for certain work.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, sturdy footwear, gloves, a high-visibility vest, protective eyewear and appropriate sun protection.
- Ensure they have an appropriate amount of water and food on hand for the time specified.
- Ensure they are fit and healthy to work in an outdoor environment and have a basic knowledge of any tools which may be used.
- Ensure appropriate signage and barricades are in place on the trails in which work is being conducted in order to alert oncoming riders of the work ahead.

Volunteer trail workers may perform the following work:

- Clear the trail of any loose debris
- Trim overhanging branches and overgrown vegetation back from trails using non-powered pruning equipment. **Overhanging branches and overgrown vegetation must be cut all the way back to the stem, trunk or ground level so that no remaining sharp points are protruding.**
- Fill in small ruts and fill in the front of sharp rock edges on the trail,
- Clear silted or block drainage channels back to original levels,
- Physically remove weeds from the trail and up to 2 metres either side of the trail (the use of chemical sprays is strictly prohibited),
- Remove rocks up to 30cm in diameter which inhibit the main line of the trail and ensure they are placed at least 3 metres away from the trail,
- Use Whipper Snippers with nylon cord only if approved by supervisors and appropriate protective wear is used. Brushcutters with steel blades and other power tools are strictly prohibited.

Volunteer trail workers may not-

- Alter any features on the trail. Features include jumps, drops, berms, rock gardens and Technical Trail Features (TTFs)
- Build any new features on the trail
- Build new trails
- Use any machinery on trails
- Use chemicals for weed control or any other purpose
- Alter the route or direction of any trails
- Remove any established trees or native vegetation from the side of trails
- Remove large rocks/boulders, stumps or fallen trees from trails
- Use cement or foreign materials on trails
- Carry out any major repair work on trails, trail features or TTFs
- Use chain-saws
- Light fires
- Drive vehicles within the park unless approved by park management.
- Eat blackberries. Weeds including blackberries are controlled by chemicals and are sprayed during the growing season (spring/summer).

I; _____,
have read and understand the volunteer guidelines by which volunteer trail work may be conducted at Stromlo Forest Park. I have also read and understand the Stromlo Forest Park Contractor's Induction card.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Signed by parent or legal guardian if under 18 years old)