



## 2024 White River Docent Volunteer Position Description

White River Docent volunteers are ambassadors for Oliver's Woods, Central Indiana Land Trust, and nature. The role of a docent is to engage with visitors to Oliver's Woods by providing guided hikes, answering questions about the land trust and Oliver's Woods, and sharing knowledge of the natural world. Docents also help steward the preserve, assist in events at Oliver's Woods, and take part in special docent-only programming.

Docents volunteer their time because they believe in Central Indiana Land Trust's mission and have a passion for nature. They help visitors build connections to nature and Indianapolis, appreciating Oliver Daugherty's vision of keeping Oliver's Woods an undeveloped space.

### White River Docents:

- Are reliable, independent, friendly, and self-motivated to pursue docent responsibilities.
- Will be present on site at Oliver's Woods two times a month—one Wednesday and one Saturday each month from 10am-1pm  
*Each docent is expected to volunteer for a minimum of 3 shifts, with at least one Wednesday shift **and** one Saturday shift.*
- Must be comfortable and willing to engage with visitors.
- Will be invited to special docent-only programming, such as floats on the White River, birding outings, herbarium access/participation, and more.

### Docent Responsibilities

As a docent, you will:

- Engage visitors by leading guided hikes, answering questions about the land trust and Oliver's Woods, and sharing your enthusiasm for Indiana's natural areas.
- Lead and assist volunteer invasive removal events at Oliver's Woods.
- Provide support for events and programs at Oliver's Woods. This includes assisting with setup/teardown, directing parking, welcoming guests and introducing speakers, and more.
- Steward the preserve by removing invasive species, keeping trails clear, collecting litter, and communicating with the stewardship team.

**Please note:** *Two docents will be assigned to each shift so that no one is there alone. There may or may not be any visitors to Oliver's Woods during your shift. If the preserve is quiet, docents may perform stewardship activities, contribute to the herbarium, contribute to the shared docent journal, etc.*

Applicants should be familiar with Oliver's Woods, Central Indiana Land Trust, and the mission and values held by our nonprofit.

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