

Instructions on Signing up to volunteer in Cincinnati Parks- Dec 2023 1a

The Cincinnati Parks use a program called “Better Impact” to register and track their many volunteer events. Other institutions such as the Museum Center also use this program. The Cincy Parks, with so many parks and so many volunteers, want to make sure that volunteers who apply herbicide have correct knowledge of honeysuckle identification and herbicide safety, and use the Better Impact site for training as well. Everyone should do Step 1. To apply herbicide, you should complete steps 3 and 4.

I realize that this the steps below seem somewhat burdensome, but it will allow the Society to track our volunteer hours, so that we may continue to use Avon Woods for our meetings. It also alleviates the Park’s legitimate concern that untrained or unknowledgeable volunteers will accidentally harm our native plants or themselves. Contact Bob Bergstein at 513-477-4438 by phone/text with any questions.

Step 1- Everyone should set up their new account with user name and password. You only have to do this once, not for each event. To sign up for Better Impact, go to [here](#) and click “fill in an application” in the upper right corner.

This takes you to a new page with the long legal waiver. Scroll to bottom and fill in form for “New”. Be sure to check the box for “Volunteer Terms and Conditions”

Step 2- Sign up for the Saturday Avon event- After doing Step 1, and you have a My Impact account go [here](#) and click “log in to your account” in the upper right. On the next screen, go to the Opportunities tab (at the top of the page), select “Calendar”, find the Avon event and register for this event.

If the event shows as “full” or “closed”, please come to Avon and help anyway. You can work and we can enter your participation later.

If you wish to apply herbicide, then complete Steps 3 and 4.

Step 3- For those experienced honeysuckle workers, after doing step 1, Please log in as in Step 2, or if you are still logged in, go to the “My Profile” tab at the top of the page. Select “Training”. (If it asks about which organization select “Cincinnati Parks”. In “Training” scroll down to “Pesticide training”. The next screen has several videos and questions. Watch the videos (30 minutes) and answer the questions. Press “submit” at the bottom when you are done. You only have to do this once.

Step 4- For those experienced workers who complete steps 1, and 3, please come to Avon this Saturday, Drew Goebel of Cincinnati Parks will give a brief 20 minute field quiz about honeysuckle identification and herbicides. After passing the online test, the field test, and asking about your actual field experience, he will then certify you as a “Trained Service Person = TSP). This is an expedited version of TSP certification, which typically requires 10 hours of supervised work. You only have to do this once.

The more people who become TSPs, the faster we can work at removing invasive plants and improving our parks. And helping our Society

