

## **Description of event followed by info on online Parks volunteer signup**

**Saturday Dec 4, 2021 at 9am, Meet at Trailside Nature Center in Burnet Woods**

**Lisa Haglund of Preserve Burnet Woods writes about this event**

“Please join us at 9 AM at Trailside Nature Center on Saturday December 4 to cut honeysuckle. The weather looks good, and pretty much the only bushes left with green leaves on are Amur Honeysuckle. We hope to be joined by Alex from Parks, also by up to 10 UC students. If there are enough volunteers, I would like to divide into 2 groups:

--Less experienced workers can go back to Area D and cut limbs off of big honeysuckles, to make it easier for a future chain saw crew to do the "eradication" steps later (able to easily reach the base to cut close to the ground and treat the fresh-cut stumps). The honeysuckle are big and unmistakable! We would like to work east to the fence and south to the staircase up to Bishop Avenue.

--More experienced volunteers can work in Area A from Trailside towards Jefferson, then along the Jefferson hillside towards Diggs Plaza. The honeysuckle is more sparse there, but we can make a "clean sweep," using the pink flag method to make sure that the fresh-cut stumps get treated (if some volunteers are not Trained Service Personnel able to use chemicals).

For both areas: be prepared for some steeper hillsides and a little more challenging terrain. We will have loppers and folding saws. Trailside Nature Center will be open after 10:00 AM on Saturday. Latecomers should be able to find us from signs across from Trailside. There is a big UC game on Saturday, so parking will fill up while we are there.

Hope to see you on Saturday!

--Lisa Haglund

**Christyl Johnson-Roberts is the volunteer coordinator of the Cincinnati Parks. She describes some of the volunteer opportunities and how to sign up for these events online**

“Better Impact is the website/app that provides us tools (software) and a platform ( to engage/communicate) to manage our entire volunteer program. On the outward facing function (for the volunteer) it is organized by category. We have about 5 distinct categories:

- conservation/stewardship
- public horticulture/grounds maintenance

- event & program support
- administrative support / special interest projects
- Krohn conservatory
- sometimes there are instances that we include an episodic category

The awesome thing this software has capability to do is track metrics that will help us continue to better organize our volunteer support.

We are already learning more about who our volunteers are, how they work, what their skills are and engage advocates with streamlined processes.

This is the link for the category you all care deeply about and are most involved with- conservation and land stewardship

As we continue to organize and create framework to implement new standards and training and methods, this will morph and maybe eventually break into separate categories but for now the TSP training, the outline of structure, responsibilities of volunteer roles and the schedule of activity/ opportunities lives in this category:

<http://btrr.im/3j6ix>

Volunteers can access the application to become a volunteer via this link as well, so it's all wrapped up in this link. So it can be shared to your groups and membership as a way to establish an account.

I'd like to see as many repeat volunteers as possible get onto the site. It's important. It helps us provide hard data on the number of volunteers actually out there doing the important work and how important the support of the foundation is and hopefully will be to focus efforts on conservation."