



Orient Land Trust

Volunteer Astronomy Host - Description

Position Overview

The dark skies at OLT allow us to offer visitors an opportunity to view the planets, moon, galaxies, and other objects of interest. Astronomy Hosts, under the supervision of the Visitor Services Manager, will be responsible for providing astronomy education and assistance viewing the celestial wonders above us. Astronomy Hosts will also be asked to lead daytime tours and/or assist with other site projects, depending on OLT needs and the host's desires.

Duties & Responsibilities

1. Develop a short talk about astronomy based on personal knowledge or other source (including programs when skies are cloudy)
2. Lead visitor use of telescope(s), including teaching proper telescope use
3. Assist visitors in locating specific celestial objects
4. Lead other OLT tours and/or work on other project(s), as time and interest allow
5. Engage Orient Land Trust visitors
 - Discuss OLT, its programs, and unique aspects
 - Encourage visitors to become members
 - Answer visitor questions
 - Receive feedback from a diverse group of visitors
 - Assist visitors as needed

Skills and Abilities

- Belief in the mission of OLT and understanding of its goals and programs
- Interest in Astronomy
- Experience with telescopes
- Strong oral communication and people skills
- Experience leading educational tours
- Interpretive training/experience a plus
- Positive attitude
- Motivated, self-starter

Time Commitment and Compensation

This is an unpaid position. Astronomy Hosts will be expected to set up each night (nights off are negotiable). Time blocks are available from May through September each year. Blocks last from two weeks to one month.

Astronomy Hosts will be required to stay in a vehicle campsite, either camping or using an RV. Astronomy Hosts will not be required to pay for camping or use of the facilities and may bring his/her immediate family.

Benefits

Astronomy Hosts spend time in some of the best night skies in North America: our elevation, distance from cities, and lack of light make for incredibly clear skies. Astronomy programs are a much-loved part of the summer OLT experience for many people, with a great deal of personal meaning for visitors. Hosts will gain valuable experience, educating a diverse group of people. In addition to having the satisfaction of contributing to the mission and goals of OLT, volunteers will receive free camping and use of the facilities for themselves and their immediate family while they are serving as host.

Volunteers who work a minimum of hours could possibly count that time toward OLT membership privileges.

To Apply

Please print an application from our website and send to OLT at the contact below. You may include a letter outlining your experience, interest and why you would like to volunteer. If you need a copy of the application emailed or mailed to you, or you have questions about the position, please call 719.256.4315 or email matt@olt.org.

Contact

Orient Land Trust, Volunteer Coordinator
PO Box 65
Villa Grove, CO 81155
719.256.4315, 719.256.4317 (fax)
matt@olt.org, www.olt.org

Thank you for your interest!