



Orient Land Trust

Orient Mine Volunteer Bat Tour Host - Description

Position Overview

Orient Mine Bat Tour Hosts will lead evening walking tours to the Orient Mine to watch the outflight of about 250,000 bats, managing the integrity of the bat habitat and educating visitors on the history of the Orient Mine as well as the natural history of Brazilian Free-Tailed bats. Time and interest permitting, Orient Mine Bat Tour Hosts may also lead daytime tours of Orient Land Trust.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Develop bat natural history and mine history talk based on existing resources
 - Some research materials are provided; good research skills are helpful
2. Lead safe, fun and educational tours to view bat outflight
 - Responsible for group behavior and protection of bat habitat
 - Work with staff and visitors to develop and announce schedule of tours
3. Provide a presence at the Orient Mine in order to enrich the experience of visitors and monitor use of the mine property
4. Engage Orient Land Trust visitors
 - Discuss OLT, its program and unique aspects
 - Encourage visitors to become members
 - Enforce bat viewing guidelines
 - Answer visitor questions
 - Receive feedback from a diverse group of visitors
 - Assist visitors as needed
5. Other duties as may be assigned by staff according to volunteer's desires and organizational needs, including possibly leading tours of OLT's hydroelectric facilities.

Qualifications and Requirements

- Belief in the mission of OLT and understanding of its goals and programs
- Strong oral communication and people skills
- Experience leading educational tours
- Positive, friendly attitude
- Motivated, self-starter
- Physical fitness level that allows 800' elevation gain and miles of walking daily
- Interest in history and wildlife biology
- Interpretive training/experience a plus

Supervision and Training

The Orient Mine Bat Tour Host will work under the supervision of the Visitor Services Manager. Training, where appropriate, will be provided by the Visitor Services Manager, other OLT Staff, and/or other volunteers as appropriate.

Commitment Required and Place of Work

This is a full-time, unpaid position with a service length of two weeks to one month. Temporary residence on the property is required. The Orient Mine Bat Tour Host will be responsible for carrying a two-way radio while on duty. The position runs from late June through mid-September, depending on arrival and departure dates of the bats. Bat tours can take up to 4 hours. The position will require approximately 30 hours of work per week. The Orient Mine Bat Tour Host will be required to camp (tent or RV) onsite at Valley View Hot Springs, a clothing-optional rustic hot springs retreat; or at the Orient Mine, an isolated area adjacent to Valley View Hot Springs. Visitors may be in various states of dress or undress at the mine. The location of The Orient Mine Bat Tour Host campsite will be given to all visitors and a photograph may be posted.

Benefits

The Orient Mine Bat Tour Host will regularly be a part of one of the most unique and amazing natural phenomena in Colorado. They 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.

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!