

Yellowstone Phenology Project

Yellowstone National Park is recruiting citizen science volunteers to assist the Phenology Project in summer 2020. Phenology is the study of nature's calendar, especially in relation to climate, and the timing of plant and animal life cycles. Help park staff research environmental change in Yellowstone. The Yellowstone Phenology Project, in collaboration with NEON is now in its third year again seeks to engage youth and adults from all backgrounds to collect essential data to help park scientists and managers better understand how the Yellowstone ecosystem is responding to changing environmental conditions.

Attend the Yellowstone Phenology Project presentation February 13, 6-8pm at the Bozeman Public Library, large meeting room, to learn more.

Learn more about the program here:

<https://www.yellowstone.org/experience/citizen-science/phenology-project/>

For more information please call Erik Oberg at 307.344.2156 or email resume and preferred participation dates to erik_oberg@nps.gov

We are recruiting 50 Phenology Project volunteers to serve as:

Field Team Leader:

Are you already a Phenology Project volunteer or early career natural resource professional? Please consider becoming a Phenology Project team leader. We are seeking volunteers with current 1st aid & CPR, previous field research experience, and leadership skills. Lead a group of Yellowstone citizen science volunteers using pitfall traps to collect predacious Carabid beetles and record plant phenology observations. Project work includes hiking off trail up to five miles per day, working in teams, collecting insect samples, identifying 15 plant species, making plant observations, and recording data. All field work occurs in the park. All training and equipment provided. Time commitment: Attend one spring training session and commit to any combination of five weekday or weekend field days from April – October, 2020. Send resume to erik_oberg@nps.gov

Field Team Member:

Serve as a team member using pitfall traps to collect predacious Carabid beetles. Project work includes hiking off trail up to five miles per day, working in teams, collecting insect samples, making plant phenology observations, and recording data. All field work occurs in the park. All training and equipment provided. Time commitment: Attend one spring training session and commit to any combination of five weekday or weekend field days from April – October, 2020. Send resume to erik_oberg@nps.gov For weekend dates, Yellowstone Forever will provide free housing Friday evening-Sunday morning at the Overlook Field Campus, in Gardiner MT. 1st-come-1st served to volunteers accepted to the Phenology Project program.

Lab Team Member:

Use a microscope and work from home! Project work includes learning order and family level insect taxonomy, sorting insect specimens using stereo microscopes, mounting and labeling specimens to museum standards, and data entry. Lab work can occur in the park or at volunteer's

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home. Volunteers must attend a taxonomy workshop and demonstrate insect identification proficiency. Volunteer lab team mentors available in Bozeman and Gardiner, MT. All training and equipment provided.

Macro Photography Assistant:

Do you have photo editing or graphic design skills? We need you. Volunteers create insect macro-photographs <https://www.flickr.com/photos/yellowstonenps/albums/72157704843714434> to document and illustrate the amazing beauty and diversity of Phenology Project specimens. Photography work occurs in Mammoth Hot Springs headquarters. Volunteers with photo editing or graphic design program skills will edit macro insect specimen photographs working remotely. Lab and photography volunteer hours are flexible and negotiable, but no housing is provided.

Photography Assistant Volunteers Should Have:

- Graphic design experience
- Access to Photoshop or similar graphic design program

Sign up for any five dates:

April 10,25,26

May 8, 23, 24

June 5, 20, 21

July 3, 18,19, 31

August 15, 16, 28

September 12, 13, 25

October 10, 11, 23

Field and Lab Volunteers Should Have:

- Transportation to Gardiner, MT
- Ability to hike up to 5 miles on uneven terrain
- Team work skills
- Fine motor skills
- Interest to learn insect taxonomy
- Background in biological science preferred but not required

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