Volunteering at the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary is a 15-acre, historic, native plant-focused botanic garden with a collection of over 600 plant species. This public garden is a treasure to nature lovers of all ages and wildflower enthusiasts from near and far.

More than 100 volunteers contribute time and energy each season at the Wildflower Garden in the field and as informal docents. By joining one of the Wildflower Garden volunteer programs, you will get to know the Wildflower Garden and the community that supports and visits it in a meaningful way. You’ll be able to share your talents and interests while learning about the plants, birds, and other wildlife of this urban oasis.

Please join us!
Welcome Kiosk Volunteer

The Welcome Station Kiosk is located just outside the front gate of the Garden and kiosk volunteers are the first people most visitors will encounter when entering the Garden. While on duty, volunteers greet and welcome visitors. They also share Garden handouts and manage a small activity for children.

Volunteers interact with visitors in a casual friendly manner while seated or standing in a covered enclosure. Shifts are generally 2.5 hours on weekdays and weekends. Required training sessions are usually held in late spring. Volunteers must be 18+ years old and pass a background check. Other requirements are enthusiasm for the natural world, good people skills, and the ability to volunteer a minimum of 8 shifts per season April-October.

Are you interested in volunteering for this program? Please send an email to the Friends Volunteer Coordinator at: volunteers@friendsofeloisebutler.org

Visitor Shelter Volunteer

Volunteers assist staff in the Martha Crone Visitor Shelter on weekdays and weekends, primarily in the mid-morning to early afternoon hours. The job of the Shelter Volunteer is to welcome visitors, to share information about the resources in the Visitor Shelter and Garden, to answer questions about plants in bloom, to promote programs, and to assist with other similar tasks. Generally volunteers work alongside naturalist staff.

Required training sessions are usually held in late spring. Volunteers must be 18+ years old and pass a background check. They must have previous experience as a Welcome Kiosk Volunteer for one or more seasons. Other requirements are enthusiasm for the natural world, good people skills, and the ability to volunteer a minimum of 8 shifts per season April-October (in total with Welcome Kiosk Volunteer shifts).

Are you interested in volunteering for this program? Please send an email to the Friends Volunteer Coordinator at: volunteers@friendsofeloisebutler.org

These programs are coordinated by volunteers from the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden with support from Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) staff. MPRB staff provide training and support for volunteers during volunteer shifts.