Become a Grassroots Ecology Summer Steward!

If you are a middle or high school student motivated to protect our local environment, join the Grassroots Ecology Summer Stewards certification program!

Grassroots Ecology is a Silicon Valley nonprofit that works with youth and volunteers to restore local lands and creeks. In our Summer Stewards program, you will learn about the plants and animals that live in our open spaces, and work with a team of other youth to improve their natural habitat through activities such as weeding, plant and tool care, habitat structure creation, water quality monitoring, trash clean-up, and watering. No experience necessary!

Spend a morning under the redwoods in Los Altos, enjoy an afternoon protecting a creek in Palo Alto, or meet a new favorite plant in our native meadow in Cupertino. We have many different open space sites to choose from where you can complete your volunteer hours.

Certification Requirements:

You will receive a certificate of completion upon successful fulfillment of the requirements below.

1. Volunteer *a minimum of 30 hours* over the summer **(June 1st to August 31st)** at Grassroots Ecology community workdays/events. Bring your work log (attached) to all events that you participate in and have the Grassroots Ecology staff member leading the workday sign off on your hours.

2. Create and submit a project that highlights something related to the habitat restoration work you did over the summer by **August 31st**. Plan on spending no more than 3 hours on the project. This opportunity is for you to learn something new and have fun while doing it.

   Projects can include but are not limited to:
   - Photos (e.g. before/after photos, interesting finds, specific insects, plants,

animals, soil types)
- Writing (e.g. history of land usage, interpretive materials, articles highlighting habitat restoration projects or unique features of an open space, poetry)
- Art (e.g. nature journaling, drawing(s), painting(s) of a species, community, ecosystem, comic, graphic design, a habitat restoration plan for your backyard)
- Program support (e.g. tool maintenance, research on specific topics)
- Media compilation (e.g. PowerPoint, informative video, community outreach video)
- Prepare and give a 5-7 minute presentation to a workday's volunteers

Project ideas must be approved prior to beginning the project by Devon Jackson at devon@grassrootsecology.org OR any other Grassroots Ecology staff member.

Your project can be submitted digitally to devon@grassrootsecology.org as a PDF or Word document. If you don't have access to a computer you can neatly hand write or draw your project and give it to a staff member at one of the volunteer events you attend.

How to Sign Up to Volunteer:

Sign up for our volunteer workdays on our Eventbrite page (or go to our website at www.grassrootsecology.org and click on our calendar in the right sidebar). There is not a separate registration required to participate in the Summer Stewards program. Just sign up on our Eventbrite page. Advance registration for each event is required.

Please note that all volunteers under the age of 18 are required to have a guardian read and accept the Grassroots Ecology waiver in the Eventbrite registration page *before* they participate in the workday.

What to Wear/Bring:

Please come to our volunteer events dressed for outdoor work (sturdy shoes required, long pants and sun protection). Don't forget to bring water in a reusable bottle. We provide tools, gloves, instructions, and a snack. Carpool, walk, or bike if you can!

Completing your Certification:

After you've completed your 30 volunteer hours and Summer Steward project, email Devon Jackson (devon@grassrootsecology.org) a scanned photo of your work log and your project as a PDF or Word document. You can also submit a printed/handwritten version of these items to a staff member at any Grassroots Ecology volunteer event. Once you've submitted these items email Devon your address and he can send you a certification of completion. If you'd prefer to receive your certificate in person, please email Devon and he can meet you at a volunteer event.

We look forward to another summer of restoring native habitat and reconnecting with not only our open spaces, but with our neighbors and community too! We hope you can join us.

Questions? Please contact Devon Jackson: devon@grassrootsecology.org

2019 Summer Stewards Work Log

Name: _____

After you have completed: 1) a minimum of 30 volunteer hours at Grassroots Ecology events between June 1st and August 31st, and 2) your staff-approved project, please email Devon Jackson (devon@grassrootsecology.org) these items or give them to a staff member at a volunteer event.

Date	Site	# Hours	Supervisor Signature

Summer 2019 Total Hours: _____