

Category 5: Citizen Science

VERNAL POOL MONITOR

Description of Position

Vernal Pools are ephemeral wetlands that fill with water in the spring and usually dry out by late summer. They are critical breeding habitat for many rare animals, including fairy shrimp and several species of amphibians and reptiles. Vernal Pool Monitors have the opportunity to contribute to an integral part of the GRNA Natural Resources Management Plan, as volunteer-led efforts to sustain and monitor natural features like vernal pools is a key component of the management plan. Vernal Pool Monitors collect data at one or more of GRNA's vernal pools three times throughout the year, twice in the spring and once in the late summer or fall to verify pool drying. Collected data is used to guide resource management decisions at GRNA.

Qualifications

- Knowledge of Grass River and/or natural environments
- Ability to work with other volunteers as well as unsupervised
- Ability to follow strict, standardized data collection protocols
- Ability to communicate both orally and in writing to GRNA, Inc. staff and the general public
- Ability to walk various distances over uneven surfaces or boardwalks
- Ability to work in varied temperatures

Required before starting service

Complete Volunteer Information Form

Volunteer Orientation

Volunteer Training: Attend the Vernal Pool Monitoring training, offered each spring

Reports to: Volunteer Coordinator