

Nachusa Grasslands Volunteer Workday Information – Updated April 18, 2022

- Safety Protocols will be in effect for all volunteer activities until further notice. See <https://www.nachusagrasslands.org/volunteer-workday-safety-protocols.html> for details.
- Sign up via SignUpGenius (www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945afa82baafb6-nachusa8).
- Arrive at the Headquarters Barn located at 8772 S. Lowden Road in Franklin Grove 15 minutes before the start of the workday, dressed and ready to work. Expect to be done by noon.
- Training and equipment will be provided. Be sure to follow all safety procedures and directions from the steward in charge.
- Check the Friends of Nachusa Grasslands Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Nachusa>) or website a few days before each workday (www.nachusagrasslands.org) for plans or cancellations.
- Workdays may be cancelled due to temperatures below 15°, high winds, rain, deep snow, or icy roads.
- **College students:** College students seeking extra credit or fulfilling class requirements are welcome to participate in workdays from early May through early November. If you are planning on attending a workday to earn extra credit or as a class requirement, please sign up in advance.

What to wear:

- For all workdays, wear long pants, sturdy footwear, socks, a hat, and work gloves.
- Wearing face masks in the trucks is currently optional, but please bring one in case the leader or other guests request that you wear one.
- Work gloves are required – bring your own.
- During winter, wear adequate cold weather gear: heavy jacket, sweatshirt, long pants, boots, gloves, and a hat.
- You may encounter multiflora rose and other thorny plants, so choose old clothing that you don't care about snagging.
- For all work in wooded areas, eye wear is required. If you do not have eye wear, safety glasses will be provided to you.
- The steward in charge reserves the right to exclude anyone who has not signed up in advance or is not suitably dressed or equipped for conditions.

What to bring:

- Bring a bottle of water and a snack (if you want one – food and drink will not be provided).
- If you are coming for extra credit, bring the form or paper that the steward needs to sign.
- Bring a lunch if you would like to picnic after the workday.

From November through May, most Nachusa Grasslands workdays involve:

- Processing, mixing, and planting seeds
- Lopping branches and shrubs
- Applying herbicide
- Dragging limbs and vines to brush piles
- Burning brush piles when conditions permit

From June through October, most Nachusa Grasslands workdays involve:

- Collecting seeds, using scissors and snips
- Pulling, digging, or clipping weeds
- Applying herbicide