



**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
VOLUNTEER REPORT FORM
PERIOD JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025
Deadline: August 8, 2025**

1. DEPARTMENT INFORMATION:

Department: Parks and Recreation
Division/Unit: _____

2. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM BENEFITS:

a. GENERAL VOLUNTEERS (this section should include community volunteer, student intern, groups, corporations, etc).

No. of Vol.	2,895	Hours	87750	X	\$40.14	=	\$3,522,285.00
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Types of work performed by GENERAL VOLUNTEERS in this category:

General volunteers play an essential role in supporting the mission of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), often serving as the friendly, helpful face of our parks. They check in campers, assist visitors and hikers, share the history of our sites, and provide general park information, helping create a positive experience for all. Their work supports DPR operations in the following areas: Park Operations: Volunteers open and close parks, maintain campgrounds and facilities, plant trees and native plants, remove invasive species, tend gardens, and support general upkeep. Nature and History Centers: They lead tours, care for animals, maintain enclosures, support special events, open and close facilities, share park information, and help preserve historical archives. Community and Teen Centers: Volunteers lead arts and crafts, assist with enrichment classes, coach youth sports, support after-school programs, and help with community events. Volunteer Vacations: A special program where volunteers camp for two nights and spend three days restoring the historic stagecoach station at Vallecito County Park, blending service with history and outdoor recreation. Special Events & Group Projects: Individuals and groups help plant native species, remove invasive plants, restore habitats, and participate in park cleanups. Court-Ordered Community Service: DPR is one of the few agencies that accepts court-ordered service, providing structured opportunities to support park operations. Together, these efforts show how general volunteers are key to the care, function, and community connection of DPR.

b. INSTITUTIONAL VOLUNTEERS (this section should include honor camp inmates, PIC/RETC, GAIN, etc.)

No. of Vol.	393	Hours	1601	X	\$40.14	=	\$64,264.14
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Types of work performed by INSTITUTIONAL VOLUNTEERS in this category:

The Department of Parks and Recreation worked with various institutions, including CAL Fire Crews, Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility Crew, and the Community Involved Vocational Inmate Crew Services (CIVICS) program. Primary activities included park maintenance, trail and habitat restoration, planting trees and native plants, removing invasive plant species, removing trash, and cleaning park facilities.

c. SPECIALIZED VOLUNTEERS (this section should include utilization of Special Volunteers in positions requiring specific skills and/or expertise levels, for example, an attorney, physician, sports figure or celebrity). These specialized positions have verifiable compensation levels (VCL). If you have such a volunteer, please indicate the position, hours and compensation level

<u>Position</u>	<u>Hours</u>	X	<u>VCL</u>	=	<u>Dollar Benefit</u>
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
No. of Vol. Total Hours 0 Total Value =					\$0.00

Types of work performed by SPECIALIZED VOLUNTEERS in this category:
N/A

d. TOTALS OF DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEERS (from above):

<u>No. of Volunteers</u>		<u>Hours</u>	<u>Dollar Benefit</u>		
2a.	<u>2,895</u>	<u>87750</u>	<u>\$3,522,285.00</u>		
2b.	<u>393</u>	<u>1601</u>	<u>\$64,264.14</u>		
2c.	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>		
Total Vol.	3,288	Hours	89,351	Total Value =	\$3,586,549.14

3. DONATIONS TO VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

Please list all donations to the department's Volunteer program including monetary donations and

tangible/intangible items. Items such as computers, air time, transportation, books, etc. Please assign a fair market value to each and add to the total value of the donations section.

Item Donated:	Ongoing Parks Society volunteer funding	Value:	\$8,222.00
Item Donated:	Volunteer Vacations	Value:	\$7,800.00
Item Donated:		Value:	
Item Donated:		Value:	
Item Donated:		Value:	

TOTAL VALUE =	\$16,022.00
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4. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COSTS:

a. Cost of supervision of volunteers (total hours of direct supervision multiplied by the hourly rate of staff person (s) directly supervising program volunteers.)

Hours	4332	X	Rate	\$32.98	=	\$142,869.36
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b. Cost of program coordination (total hours of program coordination multiplied the hourly rate of coordinator(s)). This section should include coordination of staff, compiling statistics, job description preparation, volunteer placement, recognition, etc.)

Hours	2080	X	Rate	\$39.72	=	\$82,617.60
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c. Other program costs (volunteer training materials/supplies, recognition costs, etc.):

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Volunteer Recognition and Support	\$8,222.00
Volunteer Vacations	\$7,800.00
Volunteer Polo Shirts	\$1,712.00
Volunteer Work Shirts	\$2,481.78

TOTAL OF OTHER PROGRAM COSTS	=	\$20,215.78
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d. TOTAL OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COST (add 4a, 4b, and 4c)	=	\$245,702.74
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5. NET BENEFIT TO DEPARTMENT FROM VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

a. Total Dollar Benefits of Volunteers, Item 2d (Page 2)	\$3,586,549.14
b. Total of Donations to Volunteer Program, Item 3 (Page 2)	\$16,022.00
c. Subtract Total of Program Costs, Item 4d (Page 3)	\$245,702.74

TOTAL PROGRAM BENEFIT

\$3,356,868.40

6. RECRUITING:

Please describe your recruiting programs:

The Department of Parks and Recreation recruits volunteers through a variety of channels to reach a wide and diverse audience: **Word of Mouth:** Many new volunteers are introduced to the program through current volunteers who share their positive experiences and invite others to join. **Websites:** Recruitment is supported through the department's website (sdparks.org), the County Volunteer Program site, VolunteerMatch.org, and other volunteer and state platforms. **Social Media:** Volunteer opportunities are regularly promoted across DPR's 19 social media channels through engaging graphics, links, and posts. **Special Events:** Community and group volunteers are invited to become registered volunteers during and after participating in events. **Printed Materials:** Flyers, brochures, and other outreach materials are distributed at parks and during community events. **Community Partnerships:** DPR collaborates with organizations such as the San Diego County Parks Society, CaliforniaVolunteers, HandsOn San Diego, I Love a Clean San Diego, and others to expand recruitment and outreach efforts. These combined strategies help sustain a strong and committed volunteer network across San Diego County Parks.

7. SPECIAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS:

Please describe any special activities and/or achievements your program was involved in during the period of this report:

One of the most notable achievements during this reporting period was the development and successful launch of the Volunteer Vacations Program. This unique initiative invites volunteers to camp for two nights at Vallecito County Park while spending three days restoring the historic stagecoach station, a rare sod building and one of the oldest structures in San Diego County Parks. The program blends cultural preservation, volunteerism, and outdoor recreation, creating a memorable experience for participants while advancing a meaningful preservation project. Its implementation reflects DPR's commitment to engaging the community in hands-on stewardship of our most treasured historic sites.

Additionally, DPR secured a grant to host four Climate Action Corps Fellows through CaliforniaVolunteers, with a program start date of September 2025. These fellows will support park sustainability efforts, habitat restoration, and community engagement, further strengthening our commitment to climate resilience and environmental stewardship.

8. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM GOALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25:

Please describe your program goals. Include activities, number of volunteers, recruitment, training, recognition and other goals:

In the upcoming year, the Department of Parks and Recreation aims to grow the volunteer program by **5–10% in volunteers (target: 3,070–3,220)** and **7–12% in hours (target: 94,440–98,850)**. These goals reflect expanded capacity and ongoing investment in volunteer infrastructure and outreach. **Program Goals and Activities: Enhance Signature Programs:** Continue the Volunteer Vacations Program, which invites volunteers to camp and work on historic preservation projects like the stagecoach station at Vallecito County Park. This unique blend of cultural conservation and outdoor service strengthens connections between volunteers and our park system. **Climate Action and Community Engagement:** With the support of a new grant, DPR will host four California Climate Action Corps Fellows beginning in September 2025. The fellows will help build capacity for climate-focused volunteer projects, community outreach, and environmental education initiatives. **Volunteer Management System Implementation:** We will launch and integrate a new volunteer management software to streamline application processes, scheduling, communications, and reporting, improving both staff efficiency and the volunteer experience. **Recruitment and Outreach:** Grow the volunteer base through enhanced digital engagement, social media outreach, community partnerships, and in-person events. Targeted efforts will focus on increasing diversity and accessibility in volunteer participation. **Training and Onboarding:** Implement a more efficient and user-friendly application and onboarding process, along with an updated Volunteer Handbook to ensure clear expectations, safety practices, and role descriptions across all park sites. **Volunteer Recognition:** Continue annual recognition events, highlight volunteers through digital channels, and use the new software system to better track milestones and service awards. Together, these goals aim to build a more inclusive, responsive, and impactful volunteer program that reflects DPR's mission and the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of person completing report:	Tony Richardson		
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Volunteer Coordinator:	Tony Richardson		
Phone: (858) 966-1335	Mail Stop: O-29	E-Mail:	anthony.richardson@sdcounty

10. DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION:

	
DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE	DATE