Doe Mountain Recreation Authority

Part-Time Ranger

Position: Part-Time Ranger
Employment Status: Part-Time
Schedule: Primarily weekends, holidays, special events, and other high-use periods as needed
Location: Doe Mountain Recreation Area, Mountain City, Tennessee

Position Summary

The Part-Time Ranger supports the safe and enjoyable operation of Doe Mountain Recreation Area by providing a visible staff presence throughout the recreation area, primarily on weekends, holidays, and other high-use periods. The Ranger patrols trails and recreation areas, assists visitors, monitors trail and facility conditions, responds to safety concerns, supports special events, and helps ensure compliance with DMRA rules and policies.

This position requires regular operation of off-highway vehicles on mountainous terrain and frequent interaction with visitors. The Ranger should demonstrate sound judgment, professionalism, excellent customer service, and the ability to respond appropriately to changing conditions in a remote outdoor environment.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct routine safety patrols of DMRA trails, trailheads, parking areas, facilities, and other public-use areas.
- Maintain a visible staff presence during weekends, holidays, special events, and periods of high visitation.
- Assist visitors with directions, trail information, recreation-area rules, and general questions.
- Promote safe and responsible use of DMRA trails and facilities.
- Monitor visitor activities and encourage compliance with DMRA rules, permit requirements, trail designations, and operating policies.
- Identify and report unsafe trail conditions, damaged signs, blocked trails, erosion, facility issues, and other maintenance needs.
- Remove small downed trees, limbs, and other trail obstructions when it can be done safely and within the employee's training and available equipment.
- Operate chainsaws and other approved tools when properly trained and authorized.
- Assist visitors experiencing mechanical problems, navigation issues, or other difficulties when practical and safe to do so.
- Respond to accidents, injuries, lost visitors, disabled vehicles, and other incidents and contact emergency personnel or appropriate DMRA staff when necessary.
- Assist emergency responders with access, directions, and coordination during incidents occurring on DMRA property.

- Document and report accidents, incidents, rule violations, trail hazards, and other significant activities.
- Assist with traffic control, parking, crowd management, and security during DMRA events and special activities.
- Monitor gates, trail access points, and other areas as directed.
- Communicate with Adventure Center staff and other DMRA personnel by radio, telephone, or other designated communication methods.
- Provide basic assistance with trail maintenance, signage, cleanup, and other operational needs when necessary.
- Maintain DMRA vehicles, tools, radios, and equipment used during patrols in a clean and serviceable condition.
- Represent DMRA professionally and provide courteous, helpful customer service to visitors and community members.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Valid driver's license and acceptable driving record required.
- Ability to safely operate ATVs, UTVs, or other DMRA vehicles on mountainous and rugged terrain.
- Experience with OHVs, outdoor recreation, trail systems, public safety, emergency response, parks, natural resources, or a related field is preferred.
- Ability to communicate effectively and professionally with visitors, coworkers, emergency personnel, and members of the public.
- Ability to remain calm and exercise sound judgment during emergencies or difficult interactions.
- Basic knowledge of outdoor safety and trail etiquette preferred.
- First Aid/CPR certification preferred or willingness to obtain certification.
- Chainsaw experience or certification preferred. Employees may only operate chainsaws when appropriately trained and authorized by DMRA.
- Ability to work independently in remote areas while maintaining communication with other staff.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

The successful candidate should have:

- Strong customer-service and interpersonal skills.
- Familiarity with outdoor recreation and OHV trail riding.
- Ability to read trail maps and navigate a large trail system.
- Ability to recognize potentially hazardous trail and weather conditions.
- Basic mechanical and problem-solving abilities.
- Ability to use two-way radios and other communication equipment.
- Ability to follow established safety procedures and DMRA policies.
- Ability to complete incident reports and other basic documentation accurately.

- Ability to interact professionally with visitors while addressing rule or safety concerns.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions

This position is primarily performed outdoors and may involve exposure to heat, cold, rain, dust, mud, noise, insects, and other conditions associated with outdoor recreation.

The employee must be able to:

- Operate and ride in OHVs for extended periods.
- Walk or hike over steep, uneven, and rugged terrain.
- Frequently enter and exit vehicles and equipment.
- Lift, carry, push, or pull objects weighing up to approximately 50 pounds.
- Move limbs, debris, and other minor obstructions from trails.
- Safely use hand tools and approved power equipment when trained and authorized.
- Work in remote areas where immediate assistance may not be available.

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the position.

Schedule

This is a part-time position intended primarily to provide additional coverage during weekends, holidays, special events, and periods of high visitation. Work hours will vary based on seasonal needs, weather conditions, events, and recreation-area operations. Availability to work weekends and holidays is an essential requirement of the position.

General Expectations

All DMRA employees are expected to promote a safe, welcoming, and professional environment for visitors; protect DMRA property and natural resources; follow established policies and safety procedures; and work cooperatively with other employees, volunteers, partner agencies, and emergency responders.

This job description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work performed. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, or qualifications associated with the position.