



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

536 North Harlem Avenue

River Forest, Illinois 60305

Richard W. Waszak – *Chief of Police*

The Cook County Forest Preserve Police Department Welcomes You To Trail Watch

Trail Watch is the Cook County Forest Preserve District's new initiative that makes you, the Forest Preserve User, our additional eyes and ears, assisting with the safety of our trails. Our volunteers will receive safety training and wear a distinctive vest and or shirt for identification. We believe this highly visible presence on the trails will help discourage crime and make all users feel safer as they use our trails to run, ski, walk their dogs, ride their horses, bike or simply enjoy nature.

Your participation in the Trail Watch program helps us stop trespass and vandalism as we protect our open space holdings, brick-and-mortar facilities and the rest of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County property we all enjoy. The general role of a Trail Watch member is to use our trails as he or she would normally do, and report problems to us for action. This program is for monitoring and observation purposes only. You will never be asked or required to confront other users in any way.

Trail Watch is designed to be user friendly. Participants are encouraged to match their volunteer time with their current trail schedule. For example, volunteers wishing to set their own schedule can become Trail Watchers and contact us as they see situations or conditions that concern them. Those who prefer a set schedule and are willing to make a commitment of at least two hours a week will be given phones with limited direct-connect capabilities, providing them with the opportunity to communicate with our on duty personnel.

To become a volunteer for Trail Watch is easy; you can download your application - right now – online at www.fpdcc.com. After you complete the application, please fax it to 708.771.1005. Once we receive your documents, you will be contacted by our representative for further information. Please note: All volunteer applicants are subject to a background check.



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND & DRIVERS LICENSE CHECK CONSENT FORM

The Forest Preserve District of Cook County requires a periodic criminal background checks for all volunteers (**age 17 and over**) These measures are being instituted in an attempt to ensure the safety of participants, employees and volunteers.

V O L U N T E E R I N F O R M A T I O N

LAST NAME:		FIRST NAME:		MIDDLE INITIAL:	
DATE OF BIRTH: ____/____/____ MM / DD / YR		SEX: M F (CIRCLE ONE)		RACE: W B H I A U (CIRCLE ONE) CODES FOR RACE: W.....WHITE B.....BLACK H.....HISPANIC I.....AMERICAN INDIAN A.....ASIAN / PACIFIC ISLAND U.....UNKNOWN	
DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER:					
HOME PHONE NUMBER: () _____ ---- _____ AREA CODE		CELLULAR PHONE NUMBER: () _____ ---- _____ AREA CODE			
EMAIL ADDRESS:					

If you may be known by another name (i.e. pre-marriage, alias), please indicate Yes No
If so, when was the last year you used this name? _____

Other last name:	Other First Name:	Other Middle initial
------------------	-------------------	----------------------

I certify that the information provided above is true and complete. I understand that false or misleading information given in my volunteer application, interview (s) or on this form will render my application void and will be just cause for termination in the event of my volunteer assignment. I authorize you to make a criminal background investigation in arriving at a decision regarding my volunteer status. I further authorize the Illinois State Police to release criminal background information as part of the criminal background investigation and the Secretary of State to release driving records as part of the drivers license check.

Name (printed) _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____