



Big Thicket Association

Job Title: Volunteer Docent, Neches River Adventures

Purpose: This position promotes the mission, values, and goals of the Big Thicket Association, including supporting the Big Thicket National Preserve. This position assists with providing education and outreach programs to the community. The Docent provides on board tours to inform and educate passengers about the natural history and cultural history of the Neches River and the region.

Location: Aboard the *Ivory Bill*-45 ft. covered pontoon boat on the Neches River, Beaumont, Texas

Age Requirement: 18 yrs. minimum

Key Responsibilities: 1) Serve with the Captain and deckhand to provide public tours and private charters, 2) Greet and check in passengers 3) Assist with loading and unloading passengers, 4) Interpret, provide information, and answer questions while traveling on the boat, 5) Monitor passengers for comfort and safety, 6) Assist and take direction from the Captain including in the event of an emergency.

Length of Appointment: Negotiable

Time Commitment: Negotiable with your availability. Choose trips dates from the posted Google calendar schedule. Schedule varies with bookings of public tours and private charters. Public tours are typically 10:00 AM to Noon most Saturdays with crew efforts one hour before and after the trip and returning to the marina. Private charters can operate any day with varied departure and return times.

Qualifications: 1) Willing to provide friendly customer-serviced interaction with passengers of all ages, 2) Knowledge of region, 3) Ability to interpret as educational opportunity occurs, 4) Able to stand, walk and maneuver around a moving boat, 5) Ability to follow directions of the Captain, including during emergency events, Able to see, hear and follow directions, 6) Interest in sharing knowledge and facilitating learning with passengers, 8) Comfortable with public speaking and use of a microphone, 9) Available for orientation and training exercises with fellow crew members.

Must have own transportation. Must be willing to complete volunteer application, sign statement of understanding and sign volunteer release of liability. Must keep timely, accurate records of date, time and volunteer hours worked and submit monthly.

Required Certifications: None

Desired Skills/Certifications: Bilingual, Sign Language, First Aid/CPR

Support: Training/orientation for this position will be provided. You will participate in multiple boat trips to learn the operation and materials. Docents will phase into leading a trip as knowledge and comfort level increases. A docent's guide document will be provided for reference but does not need to be memorized. Each docent has strengths and a favorite subject area which enhance the river experience.

Dress Code: Hygienic and professional appearance. Closed toe non-slip footwear, sleeved shirt that covers mid-section, pants/shorts of modest length. BTA/Neches River Adventures/Ivory Bill/logo shirts and caps are encouraged. Cold weather and rain gear as needed.

Benefits: Enjoy cruises on the Neches River without owning a boat. Interact with a great crew. Meet lots of people from many places. Share your knowledge with a great organization. Contribute to conservation. Collect volunteer hours. Build your resume.

Interested? We would love to hear from you!

Contact:

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Facebook Pages Neches River Adventures and Big Thicket Association



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