

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

324.72105a Adopt-a-trail program.

Sec. 72105a. (1) The department shall establish an "adopt-a-trail" program that will allow volunteer groups to assist in maintaining and enhancing trails on state owned land.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), volunteer groups in the adopt-a-trail program may adopt any available trail or trail segment and may choose any 1 or more of the following volunteer activities:

- (a) Spring cleanups.
- (b) Environmental activities.
- (c) Accessibility projects.
- (d) Special events.
- (e) Trail maintenance, enhancement, and development.
- (f) Public information and assistance.
- (g) Training.

(3) The department shall designate the activities to be performed by a volunteer group in the adopt-a-trail program. The department may provide for more than 1 volunteer group to adopt an eligible trail or trail segment. If the department operates other programs in the vicinity of the trail that allows volunteers to adopt a park or other resource, the department shall coordinate these programs to provide for efficient and effective volunteer programs in the area.

(4) A volunteer group that wishes to participate in the adopt-a-trail program shall submit an application to the department on a form provided by the department. Additionally, volunteer groups shall agree to the following:

- (a) Volunteer groups shall participate in the program for at least a 2-year period.
- (b) Volunteer groups shall consist of at least 6 people who are 18 years of age or older, unless the volunteer group is a school or scout organization, in which case the volunteers may be under 18 years of age.
- (c) Volunteer groups shall contribute a total of at least 400 service hours over a 2-year period.
- (d) Volunteer groups shall comply with other reasonable requirements of the department.

(5) A state park manager or a district forest manager may issue to volunteers who are actively working on adopt-a-trail projects that last more than 1 day free camping permits if campsites are available. A state park manager or a district forest manager may waive state park entry fees for volunteers entering state parks to work on adopt-a-trail projects.

(6) While a volunteer is working on an adopt-a-trail project, the volunteer has the same immunity from civil liability as a department employee and shall be treated in the same manner as an employee under section 8 of 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1408.

(7) The department shall design and erect near the entrance of each adopted trail or trail segment an adopt-a-trail program sign with the name of the volunteer group's sponsoring organization listed for each volunteer group that has contributed at least 100 service hours by volunteers.

History: Add. 1997, Act 129, Imd. Eff. Nov. 5, 1997;—Am. 2010, Act 46, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 212, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

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