



BE GOOD DO GOOD

# VOLUNTEER

Volunteer BREC

Volume 5, Issue 3  
March 31, 2017

## THE NUMBERS ARE IN!

The numbers are in, and it was another stellar year for Volunteer BREC! We would like to thank the 4,247 volunteers who provided 36,868.75 hours of service to BREC in 2016! According to IndependentSector.org, the value of a volunteer in Louisiana is \$23.56 per hour. This means the value provided by BREC volunteers in 2016 totaled \$868,627.75! We hope that the volunteers' experience was invaluable.

Just under 550 volunteers contributed 1,511 hours helping keep BREC parks aesthetically pleasing through beautification projects. We would like to thank the various high school and collegiate groups who spent their free time and even spring break helping make BREC parks clean and pristine in 2016.

While Bluebonnet Swamp saw the most volunteers - 1,444 to be exact - put in 4,867 hours, 90 golf marshals put in the most hours at 14,641. The BREC Zoo had 1,250 volunteers contribute 8,689 hours to help with major events such as Zippity Zoo Fest. With so many community events put on by BREC's Recreation Department each year, it's no surprise that 363 volunteers put in 1,157 hours in 2016. Conservation had 174 volunteers work on projects that totaled 696 hours. That's almost 700 hours dedicated to helping the environment!

Magnolia Mound kept busy with 20 volunteers donating 895 hours of service throughout the year. Outdoor Adventure saw 41 volunteers spend 608 hours making sure kids and adults enjoyed the great outdoors! Sixty-four volunteers donated 246 hours to help with Extreme Sports & Dog Parks while 36 volunteers spent 108 hours helping humans and horses at Farr Park.

This year proved to be unlike any other in recent history with the August 2016 flood. BREC didn't miss a beat in reaching out to the community by setting up BREC on the Geaux at shelters and opening camps for those who were displaced. All in all, 54 volunteers gave 180 hours of their time at BREC to help those affected by the flood.

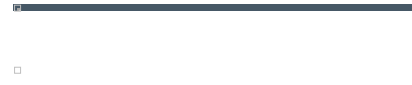
Between the various BREC committees and the BREC Foundation, 99 volunteers donated 349 hours of service. Other groups who had less than 20 volunteers each still made a huge impact with nearly 3,000 hours of service to BREC. These groups include Adult Leisure, Baton Rouge Soccer Club, BREC Commission, Fitness, Health Fairs, Highland Road Observatory, Independence Botanic Gardens, LSU Playground Kids, Photography and Youth Coaching.

Thank you to every single BREC volunteer. We hope you see the difference you've made in the lives of kids and adults in the Baton



## PARK BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

BREC relies on volunteers to maintain our parks and keep them safe for all residents to enjoy. BREC's park beautification projects provide the perfect opportunity to get outside. Come enjoy the outdoors while volunteering with your school, church, corporate, or community service group. We hope to have your students, staff, faculty and community members join us at one of our parks or facilities.



Rouge community. Please join us in making 2017 a productive and fun year for BREC participants. Without you, BREC wouldn't be possible. Thank you!



BREC provides **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** perfect for people of all ages and abilities. BREC offers opportunities that include beautification projects, athletics, education, and assistance with community, social, and special events.

**YOUR SERVICE** may qualify you for a state income tax deduction and/or discounted rates at BREC facilities.

**MORE INFO:** [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org) 225-272-9200 EXT 446 **Follow Us!**



## HEARTS AND HOOVES RIDING PROGRAM

Therapeutic Riding Program  
Farr Park Equestrian Center  
6402 River Road, Baton Rouge 70802

This program provides equine-oriented activities for the purpose of contributing to the cognitive, physical, emotional and social well-being of people with disabilities.

The center welcomes adults and children, ages six and older, to participate in sessions throughout the school year every Monday from 4:15 - 5 p.m. or from 5:15 - 6 p.m. or 6:15 - 7 p.m. Volunteers serve as "side walkers" as they lead the horses through the arena and trails to ensure the safety of participants. Classes run October 31 - December 5.

## ZIPPITY ZOO FEST

Baton Rouge Zoo  
3601 Thomas Road, Baton Rouge 70807

Saturday, April 1 (9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.)  
Sunday, April 2 (9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed to help

BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo celebrate its 47<sup>th</sup> birthday! Volunteers can help with face painting, education booths and more. Shifts are available: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 12 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. To volunteer, email [JShields@brec.org](mailto:JShields@brec.org).



## COOKING IN CENTRAL

The Amazing Place  
10305 Blackwater Road,  
Central 70714

Saturday, April 1 (11 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed at this fun event to help in the Children's Village, which includes fun games, inflatables, and other activities. Email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org) to help.



## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

(click to enlarge)



## GREAT FAMILY CAMPOUT

Highland Road Community Park  
14024 Highland Road, Baton Rouge 70810

Saturday, April 1 - Sunday, April 2 (4 p.m. - 10 a.m.)

Howell Community Park



5509 Winbourne Avenue,  
Baton Rouge 70805

Saturday, April 29 - Sunday,  
April 30 (4 p.m. - 10 a.m.)

Volunteers are needed to do various activities with kids such as make s'mores, hike, oversee inflatables and more. Food is provided and no camping experience is needed. This is an overnight event, though you aren't required to stay overnight. The event is broken up into volunteer shifts. Saturday/Shift 1: 12-3 p.m.-set up activities and camp layout; Shift 2: 5:30-11 p.m.-activities, tear down of Saturday activities; Sunday/Shift 3: 6 a.m.-noon-breakfast, checkout, surveys, tear down. Email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org) to help out!



### STICK HORSE RODEO

Farr Park Equestrian Center  
6402 River Road, Baton  
Rouge 70820

Saturday, April 8 (9 a.m. -  
noon)

Volunteers are needed to help at Farr Park's annual Stick Horse Rodeo. At this popular event, kids compete in rodeo events such as bronco riding, barrel racing, pole-bending flag race, and bull riding while riding their stick horse. To volunteer, email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org).



### KATHY DRIVE RIBBON CUTTING

Kathy Drive Park  
1801 Kathy Drive, Baton Rouge 70816

Saturday, April 8 (10 a.m. - noon)

Join us for the festivities as we unveil new playground equipment, sand volleyball courts, a sand soccer field, and walking trail. Volunteers are needed to help with recreational field day games. To sign up, email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org).



### COMMUNITY EGG HUNTS

Highland Road Community  
Park  
14024 Highland Road, Baton  
Rouge 70810

Saturday, April 8 (10 a.m. -  
noon)

Alsen Park  
601 Old Rafe Meyer Road,  
Baton Rouge 70807

Saturday, April 15 (12 - 4:30 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed to help with these festive holiday events! There will be recreational games, arts and crafts, visits from the Easter Bunny, egg hunts and more. To volunteer, email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org).



## ADULT LEISURE BUNNY HOPS

Milton J. Womack Ballroom  
6201 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge 70802

Tuesday, April 11 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Anna T. Jordan Community Park  
1750 Stilt Street, Baton Rouge 70807

Wednesday, April 12 (10 a.m. - noon)

Volunteers are needed to help BREC seniors enjoy recreational games and an egg hunt. To volunteer, email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org).



## BIOBLITZ

Frenchtown Road  
Conservation Area  
17998 Frenchtown Road,  
Central 70739

Friday, April 14 (5 p.m. -  
12:30 a.m.)

Saturday, April 15 (6:45 a.m. -  
7 p.m.)



Volunteers 14 years or older are needed to take pictures and input data onto computers. A stationary photographer would need to bring their own camera and have some knowledge of photography. Roaming photographers (no photography experience needed) will go on hikes and capture photos of species found using their own smart phone. Computer techs will enter data and update spreadsheets. The computers will already be set up. Volunteers will work in shifts. To sign up for this event, visit <http://www.brec.org/index.cfm/form/home/17> or email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org). For more information on Bioblitz, visit [www.brec.org/bioblitz](http://www.brec.org/bioblitz).

## SUNSHINE SOCIAL

Womack Ballroom  
6201 Florida Blvd., Baton  
Rouge 70806

Friday, April 21 (6 - 9 p.m.)  
Theme: Fashion Fiasco

Friday, May 19 (6 - 9 p.m.)  
Theme: Tiki Twist



The BREC Therapeutics Department and Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge are proud to offer programming to adults in the community with disabilities. The Sunshine Social is their monthly party complete with great music, food, and people. Volunteers will be asked to help serve the participants drinks and snacks as well as dance and socialize! Email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org) to help out.

## MOVIE IN THE PARK

Nairn Drive Park  
2800 Nairn Drive, Baton  
Rouge 70808

Friday, April 21 (7:30 p.m. -  
10:30 p.m.)

Movie: Pan



Anna T. Jordan  
1750 Stilt Street, Baton Rouge  
70807

Friday, May 12 (7:30 p.m. -  
10:30 p.m.)  
Movie: Storks

Join BREC for a family movie night under the stars. Volunteers are needed to help serve popcorn and other concessions. Email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org) to sign up.



### CINCO DE MAYO

Independence Community  
Park  
7500 Independence Blvd.,  
Baton Rouge 70806

Sunday, April 30 (1 - 5 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed to help with this fun event that includes a Children's Village with games, activities and inflatables. There will also be family games, arts and crafts, and more! Come out and celebrate with authentic Mexican food and great music! Sign up to volunteer by emailing [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org).



### COMITE HUSTLE MOUNTAIN BIKE RACES

Hooper Road Mountain  
Bike Trails  
6261 Guynell Drive, Baton  
Rouge 70811

Sunday, May 7 (8 a.m. -  
noon)

Volunteers are needed at this fun event to help with setup/pickup, scoring, and to standby in the trails to monitor safety.



### MESSY MASTERPIECES

Baker Park, Cadillac Street  
Park, Cedar Ridge Park,  
Jackson Community Park,  
Kernan Avenue Park,  
Perkins Road Community  
Park

Saturday, May 13 (10 a.m. -  
noon)

Volunteers are needed to help children create their own masterpiece of art using a variety of mediums, including paint, chalk and charcoal, using their fingers, hands and brushes.



## INCLUSIVE BASEBALL LEAGUE

Forest Community Park  
13900 South Harrell's Ferry Road, Baton Rouge 70816

Saturdays, April 29 - June 24

Coaches and volunteers are needed for inclusive baseball to help participants have fun and be the best player they can be! On Game Days, volunteers are needed to help on the field and sometimes run or be one-on-one with a participant. Only coaches are required to attend all listed dates. Baseball experience is NOT required to help. If interested in coaching or volunteering, email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org). No games on May 27. Skill days are April 29 and May 6.

## MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL WORK DAY

Comite River Park  
8900 Hooper Road, Baton Rouge 70818

Saturday, April 29 (8 a.m. - noon)

Looking for a fun way to give back? Come have an EXTREME time helping BREC's Extreme Sports on one of their trail work days. Work days are held throughout the year so you are sure to find a date that works with your schedule. Work includes, but is not limited to, trash pickup, trimming limbs, and dirt work (shoveling and raking). Bug spray, water and a love of the outdoors is recommended. Email [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org) to volunteer.



## HOW TO HELP

For more information about signing up for any of these volunteer opportunities, please email Monica Dugas at [volunteer@brec.org](mailto:volunteer@brec.org), or call (225) 272-9200, ext. 446. Keep updated on BREC volunteer opportunities by signing up to receive volunteer information at [BREC.org/volunteer](http://BREC.org/volunteer), visit [volunteermatch.com](http://volunteermatch.com) and follow Volunteer BREC on Facebook. Volunteers serving 30 or more hours with BREC in a calendar year may qualify for a \$500 state income tax deduction.



6201 FLORIDA BLVD • BATON ROUGE LA • [VOLUNTEER@BREC.ORG](mailto:VOLUNTEER@BREC.ORG)

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Archives](#)

If you are having trouble viewing this message, please [click here](#).