



BE GOOD DO GOOD

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer BREC

FEBRUARY
2018

IT'S NOT JUST A BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

BREC has many beautification projects throughout the year from planting to cleaning littered parks. Not only do we help obtain beautiful environments for our parks, but there are also environmental benefits to the beautification projects we participate in!

With the help of our volunteers this past January, over 100 trees were planted along CAPP Pennington Trail but this event didn't just simply help beautify the area. Trees reduce the number of heat islands, which are surfaces that can be exposed to temperatures 50-90°F, while shaded or moist surfaces remain air temperature. According to United States Environmental Protection Agency, shaded surfaces may be 20-45° cooler than peak temperatures of unshaded surfaces. Trees can also reduce runoff and improve water quality by absorbing and filtering rain water. This makes it safer and more comfortable for patrons to enjoy the trail while eating jogging, walking their dogs or simply enjoy a casual stroll on a hot afternoon.

Secondly, littering can harm the wildlife, clog drainage systems, and can also create fires. With our beautification projects, volunteers can prevent these disasters from happening. Our volunteers help clean the trash that these litterbugs left behind hazardedly around parks, facilities and along trails.

Beautification projects do not only create beautiful parks but they maintain healthy park environments. Email volunteer@brec.org to see how you can get involved in making a difference.

Want to start a group project for your club, friends, community group or after school extracurricular? Visit brec.org/GroupVolunteer to get started!

NEW Volunteer Opportunities

Looking to volunteer in the upcoming months? Check out the events below and click the titles for more info. Contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteer@brec.org to sign up for any of the events listed below.

[Valentine's Movie Mixer](#)

Jefferson Highway Park

Friday, February 2 (6 - 9:30 p.m.)

[Geaux Fish! Rodeo](#)

North Sherwood Community Park

Tuesday, February 13 (8 - 11 a.m.)

[Movie in the Park](#)

Jackson Community Park

Friday, February 16 (6:30 - 9:30 p.m.)

[Sunshine Social](#)

Milton J. Womack Park

Friday, February 16 (6 - 9 p.m.)

[TBall & Coaches Pitch Clinic](#)

Cedar Ridge Drive Park

Saturday, February 17 (9 - 11:30 a.m.)

[Black History Event](#)

Independence Park Theatre

Thursday, February 22 (6:30 - 8 p.m.)

[Bluebonnet Swamp Volunteer Day](#)

Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center

Saturday, February 24 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)

SPOTLIGHT

VOLUNTEER TREE PLANTING



Brayden Blanchard was one of the more than 100 volunteers to join us at the Volunteer BREC tree planting on January 13. Check out the video above to see why he choose to help his community and volunteer with BREC.

GROUP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PARK BEAUTIFICATION

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.



PARK REPORT CARD

With over 182 parks, BREC's Park Operations departments work day in and day out to keep our parks in tip-top shape while keeping in mind safety, cleanliness and all-around functionality for the community. The NEW Park Report Card program gives volunteers the opportunity to go out and be the judge of BREC parks.

[Click here for more info on Group Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Leprechaun Game Night](#)

Zachary Community Park
Friday, March 9 (6 - 8 p.m.)

[Community Egg Hunt](#)

Forest Community Park
Saturday, March 10 (10 a.m. - noon)

[Rockin' at the Swamp](#)

Bluebonnet Swamp and Nature Center
Saturday, March 10 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

[Adult Leisure Bunny Hop](#)

Milton J. Womack Park
Tuesday, March 13 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

[Adult Leisure Bunny Hop](#)

Anna T. Jordan Community Park
Wednesday, March 14 (10 a.m. - noon)

[Leprechaun Game Night](#)

Perkins Road Community Park
Friday, March 16 (6 - 8 p.m.)

[Sunshine Social](#)

Milton J. Womack Park
Friday, March 16 (6 - 9 p.m.)

[Community Egg Hunt - Flashlight Egg Hunt](#)

Plank Road Park
Friday, March 23 (6:30 - 9 p.m.)

CONTINUOUS Volunteer Opportunities

Can't make any of the events above? Need something with a more regular schedule for volunteering? We've got continuous opportunities available too! Contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteer@brec.org to sign up for any of the opportunities listed below.

[Hearts & Hooves Therapeutic Riding Program](#)

Farr Park Equestrian Center
Every Monday, January 22 - February 26 and March 12 - April 16

[Inclusive Recreation - Adult Interactive Days](#)

Kathy Drive Park/Independence Community Park
Wednesday - Friday (10 a.m. - noon)



HOW TO HELP

For more information about signing up for any of these volunteer opportunities, please email the volunteer coordinator at 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, visit 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

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