

Preventative Search and Rescue Volunteer

Job Description

Volunteers for the Preventative Search and Rescue (PSAR) program are scheduled to work one or two days per week at either the Dune Climb or Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive #9 Lake Michigan Overlook. They are responsible for educating visitors about the hazards and safety precautions they should take when walking from the Dune Climb to Lake Michigan and at PS Drive #9 overlook down to the beach and back up.

The Park and local rescue agencies conduct over 60 search and rescue events each summer at the Park. The intent of this program is to reduce the number of visitors who are injured or lost by educating visitors at these high use areas. The volunteer will report volunteer hours and comments after their assigned time is completed using the Friends web site: www.friendsofsleepingbear.org.

Volunteers will be provided with training and a free annual pass to Sleeping Bear Dunes.

The duties of the PSAR volunteer include:

- Be stationed at the Dune Climb or Pierce Stocking Drive #9 at least once per week during mid-June through end of August.
- Educate visitors about the hazards of walking from the Dune Climb to Lake Michigan and what protective clothing, water, food, and sunscreen should be used. Describe the length and difficulty of the hike and estimate the time required to make the trip, so they can communicate their plans to friends and family before leaving.
- At PS Drive #9, PSAR volunteers would be stationed at the boardwalk where visitors often walk down to the beach. Educate them on the difficulty of the hike back up and alternatives. Also suggest appropriate clothing, water, food, etc.
- Report your volunteer hours and any comments on Friends web site www.friendsofsleepingbear.org after each assignment.

For more information, click this link:

<http://friendsofsleepingbear.org/projects/preventative-search-and-rescue-psar/>

Required Experience

- Good communication skills
- Access to the internet to make reports of the trail walk on the friends web site.

Required Training

Annual training (done in May or June) is provided by the Law Enforcement Rangers at Sleeping Bear Dunes, Sleeping Bear Dunes.

Time Commitment

4-8 hour assignment for each day the volunteer signs up for each week. At least one assignment per week.