



Volunteer Liability Waiver/Acknowledgement of Risk & Safety Guidelines

I and/or the volunteer group that I represent shall indemnify and hold harmless Mecklenburg County, its officers, employees and assigns from and against all claims, damages, losses or expenses arising out of participation as a volunteer. I understand that volunteer services to Mecklenburg County are to be completed without remuneration or monetary benefit of any kind. **By completing this registration, I am confirming** that I voluntarily and knowingly assume the risk and responsibility of my participation. I agree to hold harmless and release Mecklenburg County from liability from any injury I may sustain as a result of my participation. I also authorize Mecklenburg County to use any photographs, recordings, or other images or likeness of me taken during the project, for marketing, social media, or other County purposes.

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation Volunteer Safety Guidelines and this Volunteer Waiver/Acknowledgement of Risk; and agree to abide by the rules, policies, safety guidelines and instructions contained therein.

FOR MINOR VOLUNTEER:

As the parent/guardian of the minor Volunteer, I agree to the above-mentioned terms and conditions on their behalf.

VOLUNTEERS: PLEASE LET STAFF KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS OR ALLERGIES

Acknowledgement of Risk

COVID-19, the illness caused by the “novel coronavirus” and its variants is an extremely contagious virus that spreads easily through the air by coughing or sneezing, person-to-person contact including touching and shaking hands or through touching your nose, mouth or eyes before washing your hands. Complications of COVID-19 may include severe illness, long-term or permanent disabilities, worsening of existing chronic medical conditions or death. Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation will comply with any and all current recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Executive Orders from North Carolina’s Office of the Governor and the Mecklenburg County Department of Health in order to limit the spread of the virus. These recommendations may include but are not limited to: 1) Maintaining a social distance of 3 to 6 feet; 2) Voluntarily wearing a face covering when in the vicinity of other people; 3) Frequently washing hands with soap and water or using hand sanitizer; 4) Avoiding physical contact with others; 5) Limiting shared use items; 6) Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.

I acknowledge that participating in Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation Department programs as a Volunteer, or accessing Mecklenburg County facilities, could increase the risk of contracting COVID-19. I understand that Mecklenburg County in no way warrants that COVID-19 exposure or infection will not occur through participation in Mecklenburg County programs or accessing Mecklenburg County facilities.

Volunteer Safety Guidelines

COVID-19 –

- Park & Recreation will comply with current County or State restrictions, whichever is the most stringent, for indoor and outdoor events/projects, for the safety of all patrons, staff, and Volunteers. **June 2023: Masks are optional.**

- If you feel ill, have had a fever in the last 10 days, or suspect that you have been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, **PLEASE DO NOT** participate in Volunteer activities.

FOR PARK PROJECTS:

- Wear **long pants** and long sleeves, for protection from scratches and/or poison ivy.
- **Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes – REQUIRED, NO sandals or flip-flops.** Wear OLDER shoes that you don’t mind getting dirty, wet, or muddy.
- Wear heavy-duty work gloves – **bring your own gloves for health and safety.**
- Wear a hat and sunscreen for protection from sun exposure; and bring your own preferred mosquito/insect repellent.
- Bring and wear a face covering (*optional*) when in the vicinity of other people, and be respectful of others’ personal space.
- Bring your own water in a large, refillable water bottle; to stay hydrated, avoid the need to refill, and to protect the environment from single-use plastic bottles.
- **Any tools should be carried “business end down”** – make sure any teeth/tines, blades, etc. are facing DOWNWARD, and WALK cautiously.
- **Avoid sharing tools** – all tools should be disinfected before and after each use, including trash-grabbers, buckets, etc.
- **Be aware of where you are walking at all times**, to avoid fire ants (loose dirt mounds), bees or wasps, poison ivy, low branches, tree roots or other trip hazards, wet/slippery areas, snakes or other animals, branches or vines with thorns, etc.
- **Avoid picking up sharp or hazardous objects you may encounter** – these may include broken glass, sharp metal, needles, animal waste, condoms, etc. ***Alert Park & Recreation staff to the location of these items.**

FOR EVENTS AND PROGRAMS - In addition to complying with **COVID-19** safety guidelines above:

- Follow all instructions given by Park & Recreation staff, including appropriate dress, tasks to be accomplished, etc.
- Wear a name tag, badge or t-shirt provided by your staff supervisor.
- Be alert at all times and conduct yourself as a helpful representative of the Park & Recreation Department.
- Report any accident, no matter how small, to Park & Recreation staff immediately.

Name/Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature if Volunteer is a Minor)