Volunteer on Trails with Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC)
Custom Programs for Groups

Do you have a group of people looking to get outside and give back to local trails? We can design a Custom Crew that will meet the needs and expectations of your group.

Please read on to get your Custom Crew started!

**Why volunteer on trails?** Perhaps you want to enjoy a day outdoors, learn new skills, or give something back to local trails outside Boston. Maybe you’ve wondered what goes into maintaining the trails you use and love. Signing up for a trail service day offers all of those opportunities, with no experience necessary! At the end of a day volunteering side-by-side with your teammates, you’ll feel a sense of accomplishment that you worked hard together to make a community resource better for all those who follow.

**Location:** Projects take place on the Bay Circuit Trail, a 230+ mile multi-use trail that arcs around Boston from Newburyport to Kingston/Duxbury. Location and project work depend on the interest of your group and existing trail needs.

**What to expect:** Trail work takes place rain or shine! While we work within the abilities and comfort of the group, the nature of hiking and physical work can be demanding. Tasks may involve up to a mile+ walking over flat or moderate terrain and carrying/lifting tools or building materials. AMC provides all safety gear, tools and expert instruction for the project.

After you arrive at the project site, we’ll start with introductions, review safety and skills for the day, then get to work! Typical projects include: lopping/pruning vegetation to keep the trail open, installation of structures like bog bridges through wet trail sections, trailhead kiosk or sign posting, invasive species removal, etc. **Note: Most BCT trailheads do not have indoor restrooms.**

**Your Custom Project:** What are your goals for the project? Do you have an area or specific town or section of the Bay Circuit Trail (BCT) in mind? How far are you willing to travel to a project on the BCT? We will work with you to match the needs of the group with current trail needs.

**Minimum Notice:** 2-3 months - Dates must be discussed and confirmed at least two month before desired program. In some cases, more time is needed to set up projects.
Group Size & Guidelines:

Minimum: 3 Maximum: 18
Max. # may be dependent upon participant ages, amount of supervision required, location and type of project, work involved, and transportation. Note: Larger groups might be split up to work on separate projects so as to accommodate that number of people on the trail.

Generally, participants must be at least 12 years old (younger participants must be approved prior to trip and accompanied by an adult chaperone) Group size refers to everyone in the group — all chaperones, parents, peer leaders, participants etc. An AMC staff leader can meet your group at the trailhead of a project or at another predetermined location.

Supervision: Your group leaders or chaperones are responsible for the supervision of the group at all times. AMC staff is responsible only for the trail project coordination, teaching of trail work skills, and maintaining safety at the project site. Group Leaders and chaperones are responsible for any disciplinary issues that may arise, including respectfulness of AMC rules.

Costs: AMC charges a fee to covers a portion of project planning, staff leadership, tools, and safety equipment. The 2020 rate is $500/leader per day. A group of 10 or more volunteers require 2 leaders. If needed, AMC can facilitate 12p van rental and transportation at an additional cost, which will vary depending on group size and date.

Registration: Please fill out the Custom Crew Interest Form on the next page and return to the Programs Supervisor. We will contact you to discuss details. Once the project is finalized, we will send you a packet that contains information to help you be fully prepared for your trails project. The registration packet will also contain forms that each participant must complete and return before the start of the crew. It works best to have them returned to the Group Leader(s) and then submitted to the AMC all at once. Confirmation of your project will be emailed upon receipt of all paperwork.

Learn more:
http://www.baycircuit.org
http://www.outdoors.org/volunteer

AMC’s Mission

Founded in 1876, the Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of America’s Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions.

We believe these resources have intrinsic worth and also provide recreational opportunities, spiritual renewal, and ecological and economic health for the region. Because successful conservation depends on active engagement with the outdoors, we encourage people to experience, learn about, and appreciate the natural world.
AMC 2020 Custom Crew Inquiry Form—Bay Circuit Trail

**Group Information**

Name of Organization:___________________________________________________________

Contact person (s):______________________________________________________________

Phone Number(s):_______________________________________________________________

Trip Leader(s):_________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address:_________________________________________________________________

E-Mail(s):_____________________________________________________________________

**DATES(S) Programs Supervisor will follow up to confirm date.**

1st Choice:____/____/_____  (-____/____/____ #Days Doing Trail Work:____) *

2nd Choice:____/____/_____  (-____/____/____ #Days Doing Trail Work:____)

*Multi-day projects are possible, but we do NOT currently offer overnight programs on the Bay Circuit Trail.

Expected start time : ______:____ am/pm  Expected end time: ______:____ am/pm
(4 hours minimum required)

Group Size: _______ (not including leaders)  Group Age Range: ___________

Bay Circuit Trail projects are possible anywhere on the trail in the outer-Boston region. Approximately how far is your group willing to travel to a project (specify miles OR minutes)?

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Initial comments about abilities and interest of participants:___________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

By signing this form, you have read and understand the custom crew expectations and leader responsibilities:

____________________________________________________________________________

(Leader Signature)   (Date)

____________________________________________________________________________

(Leader Signature)   (Date)

**Questions & Contact Info:**

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