

# Volunteer Role Open: Trail Mower & Tractor Maintenance



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Do you enjoy mowing and wish you could of more of it, all the while helping nature? Join the volunteer team as **trail mower** at **Kankakee Sands** in Newton County! The mowing & maintenance volunteer will assist with caring for the native plant nursery trails and firebreaks using a John Deere 540.

Mowing keeps the nursery driving lanes **easy to navigate and accessible to visitors walking on the trails**. This straightforward role allows TNC's staff more time to spend growing native plants and helps keep the never-ending battle against weeds from overwhelming stewards and volunteers alike. This role includes lots of maintenance of the John Deere so expect to get your hands dirty too.

The Trail Mower & Tractor Maintenance volunteer will receive training on the use and maintenance of the nursery tractor. Experience strongly appreciated.

**Time Commitment:** approximately 8 hours a month

**Day of Week:** Open, flexible

**Location:** Kankakee Sands Native Plant Nursery,  
1492 W Co Rd 250 N, Morocco, IN 47963

## Duties include:

- Mowing the trails and firebreaks of the native plant nursery regularly
- Maintaining and cleaning the John Deere 540 before and after use
- Monitoring vegetation conditions at the nursery
- Working alone and outdoors in varying weather conditions
- Coordinating with staff on equipment availability
- Completing training on mower and equipment use with Kankakee Sands staff
- Tracking volunteer hours for inclusion in program reports

## Desired background or experience:

- Experience with John Deere 540 tractors appreciated
- Experience with essential maintenance on tractors
- Comfortable working in remote areas off-trail

If you are interested in contributing your time and skills, please contact **Esmé Barniskis** at [esme.barniskis@tnc.org](mailto:esme.barniskis@tnc.org).



To learn more about other volunteer opportunities, visit our [website](#).



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