

Volunteer Role Open:

Bison Ranger



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Time Commitment: Approximately 4 hours a month

Day of Week: any, preference for weekends **Location:** Kankakee Sands Welcome Area, 3294 N US 41, Morocco, IN 47963

The Nature Conservancy is seeking a new cohort of volunteers to become **Bison Rangers at Kankakee Sands in Newton County**. Bison Rangers are trained docents who are outgoing and passionate about environmental education and share information about Kankakee Sands' bison herd to the general public. This is an engaging way to encounter some of North America's megafauna and raise awareness about a critical species for prairie ecosystems.

Bison Rangers are the **public face of the bison program** at Kankakee Sands. The ideal Ranger would be interested in learning and educating about the bison program and comfortable sharing information with diverse visitors who may be unaware of the program. Rangers time and efforts will help grow the relationships of visitors to this spectacular species and unique natural area.

Duties may include:

- Meeting and greeting the visitors at the Bison Viewing Area or Kankakee Sands Welcome Area
- Answering questions and sharing information about the Kankakee Sands' bison program
- Helping visitors to know best locations for viewing the bison and where to find walking trails at Kankakee Sands
- Tracking number of visitors and common questions from visitors to share back with TNC staff
- Hosting school field trips and tour groups to Kankakee Sands
- Representing TNC and Kankakee Sands at area fairs and festivals
- Assisting with National Bison Day (first Saturday in November)
- Attending a Kankakee Sands Bison Ranger Training, and regular refresher trainings
- Willingness to interact with visitors of all ages, abilities, genders, and ethnicities

Desired experience or background:

- Enthusiasm for environmental education and outreach
- Ability to pass a background check and meet TNC Youth Safety standards
- Prior experience working with youth appreciated but not required

If you are interested in contributing your time and skills, please contact **Esmé Barniskis at <u>esme.barniskis@tnc.org</u>**.



To learn more about other volunteer opportunities, visit our website.

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Our commitment to diversity includes the recognition that our conservation mission is best advanced by the leadership and contributions of people of all genders, diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and culture. Recruiting and mentoring staff to create an inclusive organization that reflects our global character is a priority, and we encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, military, protected veteran status or other status protected by law.

