



TURTLE ISLAND PRESERVE

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Site Information for College Service Learning Projects and Alternative Breaks

Work Detail

- **Nature of the work:** Trails maintenance, brush clearing, fire keeping, cooking, firewood prep, etc. (more details at: <http://alternativebreaks.org/>)
- **Supplies students need to bring?** What-to-bring-list on website and sent out via email: including outdoor camping gear.
- **Any special skills required to work there?** No skills required, but positive attitude and open mind is a must.
- **Is there a hospital near the work site?** Yes. How far away? 8 miles - 12 minute drive to Watauga Medical Center in Boone, NC.

Other Details

- **Are there any policies, rules, or regulations that will apply to our group while working with the organization?** No drugs or alcohol allowed.
- **Is there a cost involved in volunteering?** There is a reduced-rate fee which covers the cost of three meals a day, overnight lodging and all activities.
- **What is there to do for fun within a 1-2 hour drive from your location?** Hiking, rafting, rock climbing, skiing, zip lines... look up Boone Chamber of Commerce for more.
- **What kind of insurance (medical/accidental and liability) does the organization have? Would any of it cover volunteers?** General Liability. All participants sign a liability waiver – and provide personal insurance info prior to arrival.
- **Is there any materials about their organization to e-mail, mail, fax, (brochure, video, etc.)?** Turtle Island Preserve has a \$10 dvd for sale that most colleges keep in their media center. There are countless youtube videos as well.
- **Is there a safe place to store our belongings while we are out on work site?** yes, in your cabin and in your vehicle.

Accommodations

- **Total number of volunteers that can be accommodated/use?** 12 -100
- **Are their facilities handicap-accessible? (for wheelchair/ crutches?)** not all are handicap, but we have managed well in the past with crutches and wheelchairs.
- **Are there living accommodations within your facility? Accommodations nearby?**
Most college service and alternative break groups stay overnight on the preserve. The sleeping cabin is approx. a five minute walk from the kitchen, 30 second walk to the outhouse and five minute walk to the actual work sites.
- **Are there on-site sleeping quarters (#/room, beds/cots/sleeping bags)?**
Adirondack style cabins, sometimes tipis. We rent out sleeping pads and have some sleeping bags. There are no beds or cots. It's an outdoor camping situation.
- **Is there a place to park? Is it free?** Lots of free parking
- **Is there a meal preparation/shared kitchen area w/ necessary dishes, pots, etc.) ?**
Our fully outfitted kitchen, no prep required – we prepare 3 outstanding hot meals a day for you. All home-made and cooked over an open fire.
- **How close is the nearest grocery store?** 8 miles.
- **Is food included in the site participation costs?** Yes: delicious, home cooked, all you can eat, farm-fresh 3x a day, with hot tea and coffee at breakfast and lunch.
- **Are there cheap restaurants nearby?** Yes. (Boone is a college town)
- **Group gathering/meeting space?** There are lots of gathering spaces, pictured on our website photo gallery.

Past Experience with Alternative Breaks and College Service Learning Projects:

- Many colleges and universities participate here throughout the year; Among them, Elon, Meredith , Appalachian State University, Warren Wilson, Roanoke & Longwood from Virginia, and Juniata from Pennsylvania. A few schools repeat annual trips to Turtle Island each year.
- **Will there be any other Alternative Breaks groups working at the same site at the same time?** Possibly – but not likely. We are a first come – first served agency.
- **Who is the contact Person at Agency?:** Desere – office manager