



Volunteer Naturalist Program Act 48 Professional Development Credit

To receive thirty (30) hours of Act 48 continuing education credit, complete the following:

- 1) Pre-register and attend the thirty (30) hours of the Volunteer Naturalist Training program for Outdoor Discovery hikes. Dates and times are specified on the Volunteer Naturalist web page, www.aswp.org/naturalist.html.
- 2) Provide at least fifteen (15) hours of ASWP Outdoor Discovery program facilitation. This serves as your “project” and is required to receive the 30 hours credit. This can include up to six (6) hours of observing/co-teaching with experienced leaders as you get acclimated to the program. The remainder of your time shall be leading hikes on your own. You should complete your service hours in the same season you take your training. You are responsible for signing up for your hikes.
- 3) Submit evaluation and professional journal of all activities to ASWP within 30 days of completing the above requirements.

Please note that ASWP requires a recent background check of all volunteers who work with children. If you already have both forms dated within the last 12 months, you may provide those. Otherwise, you will need new ones. The forms and instructions are downloadable at www.aswp.org/background_check.zip.

To enroll, please return the Volunteer Naturalist application www.aswp.org/volunteer_naturalist_app.pdf and initiate the background check. The next step will be to arrive for the first day of training, with lunch, prepared to be inside and outside. At the first training date we will take care of any additional information or forms we need for Act 48 reporting.

If you have any questions about the program itself or the Act 48 aspect, visit the Volunteer Naturalist Web Page at www.aswp.org/naturalist.html or contact Scott Detwiler at 412-963-6100 x. 20 or sdetwiler@aswp.org. We look forward to meeting you!