

*Just a few of the many  
rewards of the VIP  
Program:*

1. Meet new friends.
2. Develop new skills.
3. Strengthen community relations.
4. Receive certification and recognition for a job well done.
5. Earn discounted camping rates.
6. Contribute to the beauty of **your** state park.



## Contact Information

DeSoto State Park  
7104 DeSoto Parkway NE  
Fort Payne, AL 35967

Phone:  
256/845-0051

Fax:  
256/845-8286

Email:  
DeSoto.StatePark@dcnr.alabama.gov

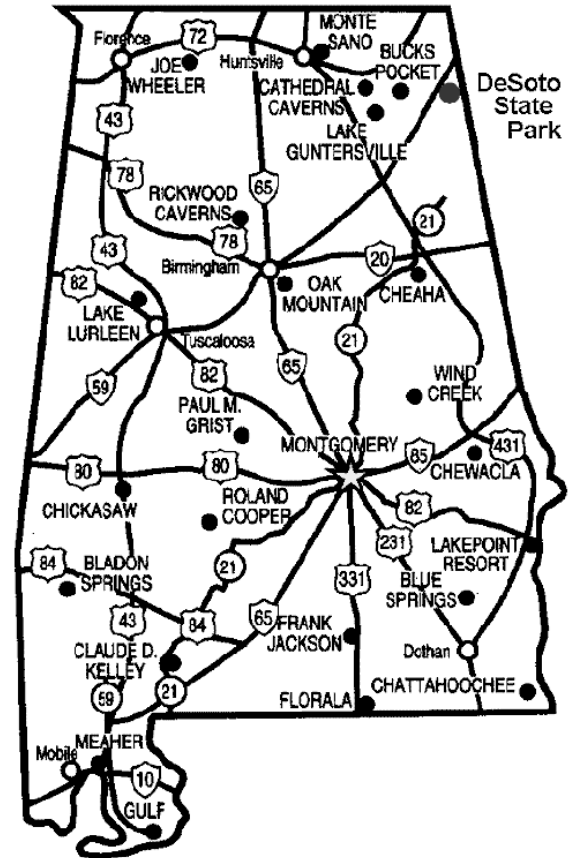
### Website:

[www.alapark.com/desoto-state-park/volunteers](http://www.alapark.com/desoto-state-park/volunteers)

### Who to Contact:

Karley Craft  
*Assistant Superintendent*

Karley.Craft@dcnr.alabama.gov



## DeSoto State Park

*'Home of Mother Nature'*

## Welcome!

*Thank you for your interest in the VIP (Volunteers in Parks) Program sponsored by Alabama State Parks.*

The beauty of Alabama and the diversity of its cultural and natural resources has attracted millions of visitors to Alabama's State Parks. People come to relax, explore, and appreciate a little corner of the world specifically made for them. Through this volunteer program, we expect to be able to extend these benefits to many more guests and to enrich their visit with better services and facilities. The primary purpose of the program is to provide knowledgeable, responsible, and available volunteers to assist in visitor services and interpretive education; and also to enhance the recreational experience of others by maintaining or improving the grounds and facilities that they use.

Volunteering is an experience that you will remember for years to come; for by enriching the lives of others, you enrich your own.

## Definition

A volunteer is someone who contributes their time and talent to a state park without compensation and has been selected for the VIP Program through a systematic application and interview process.

## Types of Volunteers

There are four types of volunteers in the VIP Program:

1. Become a part-time volunteer in one of our facilities such as the Lodge, Country Store, Civilian Conservation Corps Museum or Nature Center.
2. Serve as a Camp Host in the Improved Campground.
3. Serve as a Work Camper in the park.
4. Work on a special project.



### **PART-TIME VOLUNTEERS** (Scheduled around your time)

Part-time volunteers work in one of our facilities assisting our staff. Tasks may include: providing information and directions, taking campground & lodging reservations, answering the phone, helping with events, programs & hikes, trail maintenance, landscaping duties, or light housekeeping.

### **CAMP HOSTS (One Month at a time)**

Volunteer Camp Hosts act as our campground ambassadors. Camp Hosts receive a full hookup campsite in exchange for 20 + hours of service each week.

Some duties may include: campground occupancy checks, light maintenance & cleaning, making copies, helping with events & programs, providing information & directions and assisting park staff in the Lodge, Country Store, Nature Center, or CCC Museum. Duties can vary.

### **WORK CAMPERS (1 to 3 months at a time)**

Volunteer Work Campers receive a full hookup campsite in exchange for 20 + hours of service each week. A position will typically range from 1 to 3 months at a time.

Some duties may include: maintenance & cleaning, painting, landscaping, monitoring trails, picking up trash, pressure washing, etc. Duties can vary.

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS (Scheduled Around Your Time)**

DeSoto State Park has over 35 miles of trails. Year-round maintenance is necessary to keep the trails in good condition. Some projects may include: keeping trails marked & legible, clearing new trails, repairing footbridges, erosion control, or brush trimming. Other projects could involve carpentry and other special skills to help make DeSoto State Park the best it can be.



For Volunteering Opportunities in other Alabama State Parks,

### **Contact:**

Alabama State Parks Division

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

64 North Union St, Montgomery, Alabama 36130

(334) 242-3334 [www.Alapark.com](http://www.Alapark.com)