



Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

JR. TRAIL GUIDES PROGRAM APPLICATION

Friends of the Desert Mountains believes that children are the keys to the future. For this reason, we are proud to provide this program which aims to connect children, ages 8–14, with their natural surroundings in a way that focuses on outdoor safety and illustrates why outdoor ethics and proactive conservation efforts are important. This innovative program familiarizes participants with this area’s plants and animals, as well as the geology, geography and native culture.

APPLICATION

(To be completed only by the child’s legal guardian. Please write legibly and provide all requested information.)

Date of Training Session(s) Requested: (Multiple dates can be requested if you are certain of your schedule in advance)

Guardian Name: _____ Other Authorized Delegate* : _____

* For safety purposes, the participating child will only be released to parties with name(s) listed above (party must show government ID).

Guardian Phone(s): _____
(Please list cell and/or other emergency contact numbers.)

Guardian email address: _____

JR. TRAIL GUIDE CANDIDATE INFORMATION (Information on the participant)

Candidate Name: _____ Gender: M / F Age: _____
(Circle one)

Date of Birth: _____ T-Shirt Size: Kids L Kids XL Adult M Adult L
(Circle one)

Any allergies? Y N If yes, please list all allergies: _____
(Circle one)

Physician/Healthcare Provider (name, address, & phone): _____

Child’s Medical Insurance Coverage (name, phone, etc.) _____

Does your child have any *medical conditions* you feel we should be aware of? Y N
(Circle one)

If yes, please list them: _____

How would you recommend we work with these conditions? _____

Does your child have any *physical limitations* you feel we should be aware of? Y N
(Circle one)

If yes, please list them: _____

How would you recommend we work with these limitations? _____

Is there anything else you feel we should know? (Please explain) _____





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AGREEMENT

Friends of the Desert Mountains and the Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument are proud to be able to provide this program to our community free of charge. However, we do ask that participants and their parents /guardians do their part by reading, understanding, and adhering to the following:

WHAT WE AGREE TO PROVIDE:

- Supervision, *from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm (unless otherwise specified)*, by LiveScan certified staff and/or volunteers, each of whom is trained in First Aid & CPR. NOTE: Our staff members/ volunteers are not specially trained to handle children with behavioral problems and/or emotional issues.
- Creative group instruction that focuses on natural science curriculum covering the plants, animals, geology, geography, outdoor ethics, outdoor safety, & cultural anthropology of our area.
- Fun and engaging indoor and outdoor activities, which include hiking, problem solving and group interaction.
- Training materials that are age appropriate and aligned to relevant academic standards.
- Program materials and equipment for use, including but not limited to: backpack, binoculars, pencil, whistle, comb, microscope, pedometer, trail map, field guide, field folder & tracking card.
- Bottled water & a trail mix bar at snack time. (All participants should eat a healthy meal and beverage before coming to the Visitor Center.)
- Upon successful completion of the program (i.e., after the participant participates in a minimum of two out of the four training sessions offered, turns in the completed Jr. Trail Guide Field Folder and the parent completes the Parent Outcomes Survey), each participant will receive the following:
 - **Official Jr. Trail Guide badge for participation in each of the training sessions**
(4 different badges can be earned – “Peak Performer” “Geology Rocks” “Keeping History Alive” and “Nature Detective”)
 - **Official “Jr. Trail Guides Program” t-shirt**
 - **“A Monument to Treasure” children’s book**
 - **Animal tracking card**
 - **“Leave No Trace” (outdoor ethics) card**
 - **Safety comb & whistle**
 - **Certificate of Program Completion**
 - **An opportunity to continue in the program as a volunteer with other adults and youth**

WHAT WE ASK OF THE JR. TRAIL GUIDE CANDIDATE (the participating youngster):

- Follow all instructions, the first time they are given.
- Have good manners.
- Maintain a good attitude.
- Ask questions.
- Be ready to learn and have fun.
- Do your best to complete all materials and earn your certification.





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WHAT WE ASK OF THE PARENT/GUARDIAN:

- Take time to read, understand, and carefully complete all sections of this application packet.
- Take time to read, understand, and sign the Guardian Release and Indemnity Agreement.
- On the morning of the 3-hour training session, ensure that the participating youngster is dressed appropriately (i.e., sturdy, closed-toed shoes, long pants, hat or baseball cap, sun protection, etc.).
- Just prior to the 3-hour training session, ensure that the participating youngster is properly nourished and hydrated (i.e., eats a nutritious and balanced meal, water, etc.)
- Please ensure that the participating youngster(s) arrives at the National Monument Visitor Center by **at least 15 minutes before the start of the** of the 3-hour training session to check-in for the session and check-out a backpack with all the supplies they will need.
- When dropping your child off for his or her 3-hour training session, please take a moment to advise your child on the importance of having good manners and following instructions. Please understand and inform your child that behavior issues cannot be tolerated as safety is of prime importance and cannot be compromised by the distractions of dealing with behavior issues. **NOTE: Any child that jeopardizes safety by not following instructions will be removed from the program and will have to be picked-up, immediately, by his or her parent/guardian.**
- On the day of the 3-hour training session, do ensure that you remain immediately accessible by phone and consistently available so that you are able to return to the National Monument Visitor Center to collect your child, without delay, if a problem should arise.
- On the day of the 3-hour training session, please ensure that the participating youngster is collected promptly from the National Monument Visitor Center (**no later than 15 minutes past the end of the program**). **Important:** In the interest of safety, the participating child will be released only to parties whose names appear on this application (see page 1), and only after that person shows a government issued ID.
- **After the 3-hour training session, please provide your child with support & resources at home, so that he or she may complete the field folder (i.e., allow time, assist your child, check work and/or provide opportunities for internet research, etc.).**
- Once your child has completed the field folder, please call (760) 862-9984 to schedule a “Certification Appointment” with either Danielle or Emily so that your child may turn in the completed field folder.
- On the day of your child’s Certification Appointment, please do your best to arrive at the Visitor Center on time. While your child goes over the completed activity pages with one of the Rangers, we ask that you take a few moments to complete the Parent Outcomes Survey.
- Please call as early as possible if you need to reschedule any Jr. Trail Guide Activity which your child is scheduled to attend (e.g., 3-hour Training Session or Certification Appointment).

As a condition of my child being able to benefit from this free National Monument outdoor/naturalist education program, sponsored by Friends of the Desert Mountains, I agree to hold up my part of this bargain by doing what is requested of me (above).

Signature of Jr. Trail Guide Candidate

Date

Signature of Participating Child’s Legal Guardian

Date

