Trail Boss Training-May 2009

The USDA-Forest Service, Los Angeles River Ranger District, and the Los Angeles Area Council-High Adventure Team invite you to attend the next of the on-going series of Trail Boss Training sessions.

- When: May 9, 2009; 8:00 am to not later than 3:00 pm.
- Where: Please contact one of the sources listed below, after April 30, for the location of this event and directions for getting there.

The purpose of this program is to train and qualify adult volunteers to organize and supervise conservation projects by sponsored groups, such as a Scout Unit. Interested persons may begin this field training whenever a session is offered and proceed through it at the convenience of their schedule and interest. Only adults may take this training, which is offered free to anyone who is interested in doing conservation work in the Angeles National Forest. Registration is not required; just show up at the indicated time and place. Persons already certified as Trail Bosses are encouraged to attend, to assist with the training and to upgrade their skills. The next session of Trail Boss Training is scheduled for August 29, 2009. National Trails Day, June 6, will also provide some training opportunities. An Administrative Pass, valid for this date, will be provided for vehicles that lack an Adventure Pass.

If this is your initial session, you will be give a Trail Boss training card and a syllabus, "Trail Boss-Program and Practices". A companion syllabus, "Forest Conservation", is available for those who are interested in doing conservation projects of that type. You may also be given an USDA-FS brochure, "Volunteer Applicant Packet", which briefly describes the Forest Service's volunteer program and contains an application form.

Hike Aide 3, "Full Dimension High Adventure Training", has a complete discussion of the training programs of the LAAC-HAT. It may be purchased at the Scout Shop or downloaded from the Council website. Questions about any of them are to be directed to Pete Matthews; Vice Chair-Training: 310-377-2162; e-mail, matthews_peter@msn.com

Clothing and Equipment

Persons attending need to be dressed and equipped to do a full day of trail work. The fashion-conscious volunteer wears long pants, long sleeve shirt, work boots, gloves, and a broad-brimmed hat. These are supplemented with sunscreen/sun block, dark glasses, insect repellant, and lots of water. Sneakers/sport shoes are not appropriate wear when swinging a Pulaski and moving large rocks. Conservation project sites tend to be hot, sunny, dusty, and lunchrooms for insects. Bring your lunch and whatever snacks you need to get through the day – these training sessions are usually at remote sites in the Angeles.

Additional Information

- USDA-Forest Service, LA River Ranger District, Little Tujunga Station: 818-899-1900 (M-F, 8 am-4 pm); web site, www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles
  - Howard Okamoto, Recreation Officer.
- John Horton, USDA-FS Volunteer Leader, Conservation Projects: 310-375-5032 (evenings); email, jbhorton@gte.net
- Dave Ledford, LAAC-HAT Trail Boss Training: 1-310-373-2111, email, gdledford@verizon.net