

Your Volunteer Hours Count!

Your time and expenses that result from volunteer activities with the Santa Fe Trail Association can be turned into big benefits in several ways. We are able to use your volunteer information to report to two organizations—the National Park Service and the Partnership for the National Trails System.

First, as partners of the National Park Service (NPS), we can help turn our volunteer time into funds that can be used toward projects on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. If you are participating in trail business, you are accumulating volunteer hours! When those volunteer hours are turned into the NPS, and the Volunteer-In-Parks program, they become actual dollars that NPS has used to help SFTA fund the Jr. Wagon Master Program. This past year the funding went towards the patches that are awarded as completion prizes.



Our friends at the National Park Service wrap up their fiscal year on Sept. 30 and when that time comes, it means it is time to report your volunteer hours. The NPS fiscal year runs from October 1 - September 30. For volunteer reporting to the National Park Service this year, you should include all hours beginning on October 1, 2014 and ending on September 30 of each year. Hours should be turned into SFTA by October 15 of each year.

Second, we turn in hours to the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS). These important contributions are compiled for all the partners in the National Trails System into what is known as the “GOLD SHEET”. Each year, the “Gold Sheet” is presented to Congress during the annual "Hike the Hill" event and that information is used to leverage continued funding and support for the entire National Trail System, including the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. To see learn more about the information contained in the “Gold Sheet” and see the statistics, visit:

<http://pnts.org/new/partnership-for-the-national-trails-system-gold-sheet-of-volunteer-contributions-in-2014/>

What Can You Include?

* Any hours spent on planning, travel, and activity time for attending or providing trail activities such as events, conferences, tours, trail marking, projects, meetings, etc.

* Any expenses that were not reimbursed for planning, travel and activity, including items such as phone call, office supplies, copies, lodging, meals, materials, and supplies for projects.

* Vehicle mileage going to and from SFTA related activities, including conferences, meetings, errands related to projects and chapter activities

* If you are a chapter president or committee chair, please include totals for everyone involved in your group.

Please send your totals to SFTA Manager by October 15 at manager@santafetrail.org
