



BE GOOD DO GOOD

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer BREC

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DUST OFF THOSE SNEAKERS AND VOLUNTEER

While January is usually a humdrum month for most, it was a prosperous month at BREC thanks to its many wonderful volunteers. We kicked off the New Year with a couple of beautification projects and even collaborated with The Walls Project to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. It was great to see so many people wanting to give back to their community in what is usually the coldest month of the year.

Volunteer BREC's first beautification project took place on January 4 at BREC's Burbank Soccer Complex where members of Lambda Tau Youth Sorority painted the parking lot railings on a sunny, chilly morning. Thank you to the ten volunteers who spent two hours making this parking lot more aesthetically pleasing and safe for the dozens of parents who shuttle their children to soccer games each weekend.

Volunteer BREC was so excited to host a tree planting event on January 14 with BREC's Planning and Engineering Department. BREC oversaw 63 volunteers plant 200 trees along the CAPP Pennington Trail off of Perkins Road. This project was made possible thanks to the Apache Foundation who donated the trees. The volunteers were able to complete the project in just under two hours. It was the perfect day for tree planting with moist soil from rain the day before and mild temperatures. Thank you to all who came out to help make this trail complete!

Two days later on MLK Day, BREC witnessed thousands volunteer their time painting old buildings, planting gardens and cleaning up a blighted neighborhood as part of The Walls Project's MLK Weekend of Service. BREC was proud to partner with The Walls Project and over 50 organizations for this incredible festival of service.

February is the perfect month to start considering projects to work on in the springtime, so dust off those sneakers and contact Volunteer BREC at volunteer@brec.org to find out how you can help!



SWAMP VOLUNTEER DAY-PLANT INVADERS PUSH BACK

Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center
10503 N. Oak Hills Pkwy., Baton Rouge 70810

Saturday, March 25 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)



PARK BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

BREC relies on volunteers to maintain our parks and keep them safe for all residents to enjoy. BREC's park beautification projects provide the perfect opportunity to get outside. Come enjoy the outdoors while volunteering with your school, church, corporate, or community service group. We hope to have your students, staff, faculty and community members join us at one of our parks or facilities.



HEARTS AND HOOVES RIDING PROGRAM

Therapeutic Riding Program
Farr Park Equestrian Center
6402 River Road, Baton Rouge 70802

This program provides equine-oriented activities for the purpose of contributing to the cognitive, physical, emotional and social well-being of people with disabilities.

The center welcomes adults and children, ages six and older, to participate in sessions throughout the school year every Monday from 4:15 - 5 p.m. or from 5:15 - 6 p.m. or 6:15 - 7 p.m. Volunteers serve as "side walkers" as they lead the horses through the arena and trails to ensure the safety of

BREC's Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center will be celebrating its 20th birthday in May, and the Swamp will host service days to help prepare for the big celebration! Volunteers are needed to help with trail maintenance by clearing invasive plant species, which will then be used as craft materials for the birthday bash. Volunteers should bring work gloves and tools if they have them, and dress for the weather (long pants and close-toed shoes are required). BREC will provide bottled water and snacks. To volunteer, contact Shannon Guidry at SGuidry@brec.org.

participants. Experience with horses is NOT required.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Independence Park Theatre

7800 Independence Blvd.,
Baton Rouge 70806

Thursday, February 16
(6:30 - 8 p.m.)

Volunteer at this event, which will reflect on the contributions that African Americans have made in East Baton Rouge Parish and around the world with a host of featured performances from area schools and local choral groups. Email volunteer@brec.org to volunteer.



SUNSHINE SOCIAL

Womack Ballroom

6201 Florida Blvd., Baton
Rouge 70806

Friday, February 17 (6 - 9
p.m.)

Theme: Sweetheart Dance

Friday, March 17 (6 - 9 p.m.)

Theme: Shamrock Shuffle-wear green!

The BREC Therapeutics Department and Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge are proud to offer programming to adults in the community with disabilities. The Sunshine Social is their monthly party complete with great music, food, and people. Volunteers will be asked to help serve the participants drinks and snacks as well as dance and socialize! Email volunteer@brec.org to help out.



CAAWS MYSTIC KREWE OF MUTTS PARADE

Downtown Baton Rouge

North Blvd., Baton Rouge
70801

Sunday, February 19 (10
a.m. - 5 p.m.)

BREC is so proud to partner with the 18th Annual CAAWS Mystic Krewe of Mutts Parade, the largest annual fundraiser to benefit the homeless cats and dogs of The Capital Area Animal Welfare Society. More than 200 volunteers are needed to help in the various booths, assist with the costume contest, help keep crowd off route during parade, lift and carry items while unloading and packing up. Volunteers are also needed prior to parade day to distribute flyers, fill goody bags, clean equipment, load the trailer, organize beads and throws, and more! Please email klm_caaws@cox.net to sign up!



INCLUSIVE BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Kathy Drive Park
1801 Kathy Drive, Baton Rouge 70816

January 14 - March 11

Coaches and volunteers are needed for inclusive basketball to help participants have fun and be the best player they can be! On Game Days, volunteers are needed to help on the court and sometimes run or be one-on-one with a participant. Only coaches are required to attend all listed dates. Basketball experience is NOT required to help. If interested in coaching or volunteering, email volunteer@brec.org. Dates are listed below (all Saturdays 8 -11:15 a.m.):

Game Days - Feb. 4, 11 & 18, March 4 & 11

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

(click to enlarge)

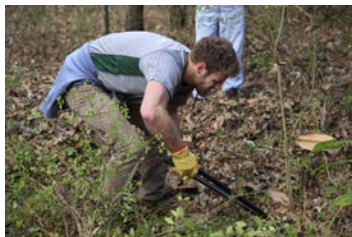


MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL WORK DAY

Comite River Park
8900 Hooper Road, Baton Rouge
70818

Saturday, March 4 (8 a.m. - noon)

Looking for a fun way to give back? Come have an EXTREME time helping BREC's Extreme Sports on one of their trail work days. Work days are held throughout the year so you are sure to find a date that works with your schedule. Work includes but is not limited to trash pickup, trimming limbs, and dirt work (shoveling and raking). Bug spray, water and a love of the outdoors is recommended. Email volunteer@brec.org to volunteer.



ROCKIN' AT THE SWAMP

Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center
10503 N. Oak Hills Pkwy.,
Baton Rouge 70810

Saturday, March 11 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed to help with this event that focusing on the exciting world of rocks, minerals, gemstones and fossils. The event will have a host of activities including a treasure trail, gold mine, rock crafts and more. To volunteer, email volunteer@brec.org.



LEPRECHAUN GAME NIGHT

Zachary Community Park
20055 Old Scenic Hwy.,
Zachary 70791

Friday, March 10 (6 - 8 p.m.)

Perkins Road Community Park
7122 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge 70808

Friday, March 17 (6 - 8 p.m.)

Assist with decorating and helping participants with fun activities such as Search for your "Pot-O-Gold," Rainbow Races, Shamrock-N-Roller with sit-down scooters, and Laser Tag with the leprechaun. To volunteer, email volunteer@brec.org.



ART IN THE PARK

City-Brooks Community Park
1515 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge 70808

Saturday, March 25 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed to help with set up, kids art, information tables and clean up. There will be two shifts: 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 12 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Email volunteer@brec.org to help out!

GREAT FAMILY CAMPOUT

Highland Road Community Park
14024 Highland Road, Baton Rouge 70810

Saturday, March 25 -
Sunday, March 26 (4 p.m. - 10 a.m.)

Volunteers are needed to do various activities with kids such as making s'mores, hiking, inflatables and more. Food is provided and no camping experience is needed. This is an overnight event, though you aren't required to stay overnight. Email volunteer@brec.org to help out!



COMMUNITY EGG HUNTS

Plank Road Park - Flashlight Egg Hunt (Bring your flashlight)
19550 Plank Road, Zachary 70791

Friday, March 31 (6:30 - 9 p.m.)

Highland Road Community Park

14024 Highland Road, Baton Rouge 70810

Saturday, April 8 (10 a.m. - noon)

Volunteers are needed to help with these festive holiday events! There will be recreational games, arts and crafts, visits from the Easter Bunny, egg hunts, and more. To volunteer, email volunteer@brec.org.



ZIPPITY ZOO FEST

Baton Rouge Zoo
3601 Thomas Road, Baton Rouge 70807

Saturday, April 1 (9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.) and Sunday, April 2 (9a.m. - 6:30 p.m.)

Volunteers are needed to help BREC's Baton Rouge zoo celebrate its 47th birthday. Volunteers help with face painting, education booths and more. Shifts are available: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. To volunteer, email Ashley.Franklin@brzoo.org.



CHEER & TUMBLING CHEERNASTICS

Mills Avenue Park
424 Woodpecker St., Baton Rouge 70807

Mondays (5:30 - 6:30 p.m.)

Tumbling
Howell Place Gym at ExxonMobil YMCA
7717 Howell Blvd., Baton Rouge 70807

Mondays (7 - 8 p.m.)



HOW TO HELP

For more information about signing up for any of these volunteer opportunities, please email Monica Dugas at volunteer@brec.org, or call (225) 272-9200, ext. 446. Keep updated on BREC volunteer opportunities by signing up to receive volunteer information at BREC.org/volunteer, visit volunteermatch.com and follow Volunteer BREC on Facebook. Volunteers serving 30 or more hours with BREC in a calendar year may qualify for a \$500 state income tax deduction.



6201 FLORIDA BLVD • BATON ROUGE LA • VOLUNTEER@BREC.ORG

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