



# On-Site Group Application

Common Ground Relief's mission is to create resilient Gulf Coast communities that are financially viable, personally cohesive and environmentally sustainable. Common Ground Relief fulfills this mission assisting residents to build assets that support community transformation and renewal.

Common Ground Relief provides volunteer opportunities that focus on the restoration of Louisiana's coastal wetlands. These projects include marsh grass and bottomland hardwood tree plantings, nursery propagation and other activities that aim at growing out plant material and using it to restore coastal salt marshes, swamps and bottomland hardwood forests.

## SCHOOL / GROUP INFORMATION

School / Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Volunteers: \_\_\_\_\_

### Group Leader

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CGR Invoice and W-9 should be sent to this email address:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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## HOUSING

The cost of on-site housing is \$28 per day per person. This cost includes housing expenses, 3 meals per day and project work. Volunteers sleep in bunk beds in their own house at the Common Ground Relief compound. The house has central air and heat and has an on-site washer and dryer. Common Ground Relief provides bed linens and towels. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their favorite pillow or comforter. Volunteers should bring their own water bottles, sun hats and any special sunscreen or bug spray that they might need to use.

Common Ground Relief provides 3 meals per day which include a vegetarian option. Volunteers assist in the preparation of their own meals and are responsible for cleaning kitchen area after each meal. Food allergies can be accommodated so notify the kitchen upon arrival. Vegans should plan to bring dietary supplements such as vitamins and power bars as needed.

## PROJECT WORK

Your per day charge also includes up to 5 days of basic project coordination which typically involves at least one planting project, invasive species removal, nursery work and work in the neighborhood, if needed. Planting projects may involve being out in the water. All projects can be re-scheduled during the week in the event of inclement weather.

*If at any time a group member is not comfortable with the work environment we ask that they do not participate.*

For an **additional \$35 per person** we can arrange a one day special planting excursion that can involve a tree or marsh grass planting for your group. These trips are generally along the coast or barrier islands and involve the use of canoes, boats and perhaps airboats provided by various governmental agencies.

**Please check here \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in this additional coastal restoration opportunity.** You will be charged an additional \$35 per participant for this one day event.

## Services Provided by Common Ground Relief

- Common Ground Relief will coordinate the planting/nursery project and logistics
- Common Ground Relief will provide an introduction to the crisis of land loss in Coastal Louisiana and the specific site that volunteers are working to restore. This also includes an overview of safety protocols and instructions on the methods to be used in working with plants for the project



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- Common Ground Relief owns and operates its nursery. We will provide all of the plants and equipment needed to work with plants for the project.
- Common Ground Relief does provide rubber boots for planting projects as needed. Volunteers may want to purchase a pair of water shoes for other projects where boots cannot be worn.

## Requirements of the Volunteer Group

- Communicate regularly with Common Ground Relief's Wetlands Project Manager at [wetlands@commongroundrelief.org](mailto:wetlands@commongroundrelief.org) especially when changes affect dates, group size and special needs of the group participants..
- We book our winter/spring planting projects by November 1 of each year. Please notify at least 2 weeks prior to your arrival if there are certain days you are planning outside activities and do not plan to volunteer with us.
- Provide your own vehicles for ground transportation, including proper insurance coverage.
- Volunteers are required to sign the CGR waiver. Additional waivers may also need to be signed with our planting partners.
- We expect payment to be made prior to your arrival. We can accept payment the day of arrival for groups that have volunteered with us previously. ***Under no circumstances will you be allowed to stay without payment.***
- **All checks should be made payable to Common Ground Relief, Inc.** Our mailing address is 1800 Deslonde Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70117.

## **Please make sure you have read the entire application**

You will be notified via email from [wetlands@commongroundrelief.org](mailto:wetlands@commongroundrelief.org) once your application is accepted.

Please allow up to one week for a response. Any questions should be emailed to [wetlands@commongroundrelief.org](mailto:wetlands@commongroundrelief.org).

**We look forward to working with you!**