

National Park Service Volunteer Awards

Each year the National Park Service awards volunteers who reach certain volunteer hour milestones of 100, 200, 400, 1000, 2500, 4000, and 10,000 hours. This year's awards were announced at the Virtual NCTA Celebration on August 5.

The following members of the Grand Traverse Hiking Club were recognized:

100 hours milestone (Nametag and Certificate)

Paul Foley
James Smart

200 hours milestone (NCT Water Bottle)

Dan Caviston
John Gerty

1,000 hours milestone (Personalized NCT Vest)

Debby Page
Patty Warner

Congratulations Paul, Jim, Dan, John, Debby, and Patty for all your hard work. Volunteer work is what keeps the NCT an enjoyable trail to hike. We have received many comments from hikers appreciating how well our 100 miles of the NCT is maintained. Normally these awards are handed out at the Celebration. Since this year's Celebration was virtual, rather than in person, the awards will be mailed to you soon.

If you would like to see the presentation ceremony for entire list of award recipients from all 37 NCT chapters and affiliates, click here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kjUCFqHAI>

The video also includes a series of trail work photos in which a few from our chapter are included. Thanks for submitting the photos, Patty.

Those six individuals listed above reached these milestones by quarterly reporting their volunteer hours to NCTA. Volunteer time includes attending Board meetings, trail crew work, adopt-a-trail, sawyer work, road cleanup, event leading, training, and any other activity that benefits the NCT or promotes the trail or our chapter.

It is important that volunteers report their volunteer time to NCTA. The National Park Service provides funding to each of the eleven National Scenic Trails based on each one's percentage of the total volunteer time submitted. Therefore, the more time that NCTA chapters submit, the more federal funding we receive, funds that can be used for trail materials, equipment and to meet other trail related expenses.