

## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Flanders could not carry out its mission to conserve land and educate adults and children on nature without the assistance of our many committed volunteers. A gift of your time and expertise is very important to the success of Flanders. Flanders offers regular opportunities for you to share your particular skills and interests:

- develop and/or present adult programs in the natural sciences
- bring visitors on hikes to our preserves
- assist in the preservation and care of our 2400 acres of protected properties
- help make our many community events a success

Whether you would like to volunteer regularly or just help when you have the time, Flanders needs you!

Please review the many opportunities listed below and return the attached Volunteer Information Form or contact Ana Jordan, Flanders' Volunteer Coordinator, at 203.263.3711 to discuss your preferences. Either Ana or a Committee Chair will provide you with information and training on your selected volunteer programs and projects.



### JOIN A COMMITTEE

As a committee member you will help build Flanders to meet its mission. Below is a list of our committees with a brief description of each. **Specific current needs are highlighted**, but volunteers are welcome to sign up for their particular area of interest.

**LEARN Committee:** *(Promoting and teaching the understanding and appreciation of nature, farming, and art to adults and families.)*

- **Ambassadors** serve as hosts for adult and family nature programs; set up venues; market our volunteer opportunities; and capture new members.
- **Program Captains** help develop/select, organize, and run seasonal programs for adult and family participation.
- **Program Leaders/Instructors** teach classes/programs (e.g. mushroom hunting, bird and botany hikes, wreath making, backyard farming, plein air art classes, etc.).



**Art Committee** (*Conserving founder Natalie Van Vleck history and archives (paintings, furniture, etc.) and providing art lessons and art events*)

- **Program Captains** organize art related programs for the public to enjoy.
- **Artists** instruct art programs.

**Land Management Committee** (*Managing Flanders 2,400+ acres of open space.*)

- **Monitors** annually review properties for any encroachments or violations.
  - Requires enjoying nature and physically able to walk off trail
- **Trail Maintainers** maintain Flanders 7 hiking preserves.
  - Physically demanding work - heavy lifting, ability to use chainsaw, etc.
- **Boundary Markers** mark open space properties.
- **Administrators** prepare management plans or baseline documents and/or manage the work of the committee.

**Land Acquisition Committee** (*Acquiring important open space lands.*)

- Prioritize land acquisition.
- Identify, select, and work collaboratively with landowners to acquire properties.
- Develop required documents for acquiring properties while ensuring transactions are accomplished under specific standards and defined practices.

**Historic Van Vleck Campus Committee** (*Ensuring Flanders facilities are properly maintained and/or restored.*)

- Help develop strategic plans for Van Vleck campus buildings and property.
- Ensure that Van Vleck facilities are maintained and/or properly rehabilitated.
- **Archive** Flanders' documents.

**Development Committee** (*Helping raise funds to support Flanders' mission.*)

**Grants Committee** (*Researching and applying for grant opportunities.*)

**Fundraising Events and Seasonal Programs:** Maple Sugaring, Flanders Festival, Field & Forest 5K, Farm to Flanders Benefit & Auction, Haunted Hikes, and Wreath Making

- **Farm to Flanders Auction Chairperson**
- **Farm to Flanders Logistics & Setup Coordinators**
- Organize and run our special events/programs
- Assist with day of event projects.



**Office Administration**

- Office Receptionist
- Database input
- General office work: filing, scanning, reading newspapers for articles, prepare mailings, etc.

**Summer Camp**

- Counselors in Training (Teens 14 years of age and over)