

AMC STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY

(Revised 5/07)

The AMC Stewardship Society seeks to recognize and encourage volunteers to contribute to the protection, enjoyment and wise use of the environment and trails in the Appalachian Region through AMC Conservation and Trails Programs.

Society Goals:

- Recognize current conservation, education and trails volunteers for their efforts
- Encourage new volunteers to become involved in AMC conservation, education and trails projects or activities
- Elevate the prestige of dedicated volunteers
- Enhance and foster a climate of volunteerism
- Establish a method of measuring total volunteer efforts and their effect in AMC

AMC members should give at least one day a year to the conservation, education, or trails project or activity of their choice. The Stewardship Society will be composed of following progressive steps that honor greater commitment from volunteers:

Stewardship Awards:

Volunteer

Any AMC member or non-member can receive a volunteer award for their contribution to AMC conservation, education or trail activities. The Chapter or AMC staff coordinating the activity will determine the required hours and type of award presented to a volunteer.

Warren Hart Award

Warren Hart, AMC Councilor of Improvements (Trails) from 1908-1910 was a stellar example of volunteerism. He spent 28 days in 1908 creating trails in the Great Gulf Wilderness. Hart, by his personal example, inspired other members to join in the effort. By 1910 Hart lead “working sections” of 40 people in summer trail building expeditions.

Marian Pychowska Award

Marian Pychowska, another early volunteer, stands out for her diversity. In the 1880’s she helped build trails, created a trail map of the Northern Presidentials, discovered the Pinnacle in Huntington’s Ravine, and is one of the first AMC volunteer to look at the impact of recreation.

Award	Hours	Recognition
Volunteer	Various	Determine by Chapter Committee or AMC staff coordinating the activity
Marian Pychowska Award	96	Certificate & \$20 AMC gift certificate, name published in AMC OUTDOORS with Annual Report summary and on web page.
Warren Hart Award	224	Certificate & \$50 AMC gift certificate, name published in AMC OUTDOORS with Annual Report summary and on web page.

Data Collection:

Conservation, education and trail hours will be tracked on a tally sheet (see page 3) by the volunteer, appropriate chapter program designee, committee chair, or AMC staff, and submitted to AMC staff by **December 1** of each year. The Director of Trails and Riverways Stewardship, North Country Trails and Volunteer Coordinators, Manager of Chapter Relations, and the Director of Youth Opportunities Program or staff designee will be primarily responsible for reviewing the volunteer tally sheets and assigning the awards.

Stewardship Society Advisors:

The committee will be composed of Conservation Committee Chair, Trails Committee Chair, interested AMC volunteers, Director Trails and Riverways Stewardship, Manager of Chapter Relations, Director of Youth Programs and North Country Trails and Volunteer Coordinators or designees. The Committee volunteers should have considerable experience or be current or former Stewardship Society Award recipients. The group will meet as needed to consider:

- Feedback on the mechanics of the Stewardship Society and what changes are needed to hours and how the hours are counted.
- Forms of Recognition that would be appreciated by the Stewardship Society volunteers and would be appropriate for current awards budget.

AMC Conservation Stewardship Program Qualifications:

- Hours spent working in the field on club conservation, education and trail projects.
- Hours spent at club and chapter committee meetings discussing AMC conservation, education and trail issues.
- Hours spent meeting with agency partners either in the field, planning, or conducting specific AMC conservation, education and trails projects.
- Hours spent in training, at field workshops or in the classroom for AMC conservation, education and trails projects.
- Hours spent leading educational walks, hikes, talks, or other programs.
- Hours spent on communication, planning and paperwork for leaders of work trips and training workshops to promote conservation, education and trail projects.
- Hours spent on conferences outside of the AMC that directly relate to conservation, education and trails projects.
- Hours spent communicating in support of club or chapter conservation, education and trails issues.

Note that travel hours do not count towards Stewardship hours. (For example, the time hiking from a trailhead to a work site counts, but drive time to the trailhead does not.)