**Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute (CDRI)**

**Nature Center Volunteer Host Program**

CDRI is pleased to learn of your interest in our Nature Center Volunteer Host Program (“HP”). This document contains:

* Information regarding the HP.
* An application
* Background check authorization/information forms
* A release of liability form, and

**Nature Center Volunteer Host Program Information Sheet**

In short, CDRI is willing to consider trading its RV pad site, along with electricity, sewer and non-potable water service in exchange for 20 or more hours of work per week, generally for periods no shorter than 1 month and no longer than 3 months. Additional benefits include the relationships you’ll make, and access to the entire Nature Center trails and features without fee or charge. The RV pad is located in the NW corner of the property, adjacent to the maintenance building, which is a remote and private area of our site, and while the area is clean and orderly, it is by no means the most attractive location of our property.

Nature Center Hosts generally contribute in one or more of a few different roles, generally:

* Work the front desk in the Powell Visitor Center
* Assist the gardener and/or site/facilities coordinator in site based, predominantly outdoor activities
* Assist our program & volunteer coordinator in one of up to seven different volunteer categories, including trail guides, garden tour hosts, mining exhibit presenters, assist with programs or events, and others. We have a detailed Volunteer Guide for your use.

Regardless of the role, each Host is a representative of CDRI and a valuable member of the Team of paid staff, unpaid volunteers and dues paying members. The better you know our site and its features, as well as knowing aspects of the Chihuahuan Desert, the more fun you’ll derive, and the more value you’ll deliver during your Host experience. Our Team strives to always be courteous, friendly, helpful, and positive.

While these documents form the general terms of a “contract” between the Host, CDRI and their affiliates, either party may terminate the arrangement at any time, with or without cause. It is agreed that the Host’s trailer will be removed and the volunteer(s) will vacate the property the day the arrangement terminates, returning all CDRI property.

**Nature Center Volunteer Host Program Application**

**NOTE: Please submit a recent photo of your camper and provide its dimensions.**

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

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

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

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

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have similar Host experience \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Yes No

If Yes, please summarize: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***Host Reference #1***

Location & Dates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reference Names \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Host Reference #2***

Location & Dates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reference Names \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Host Reference #3***

Location & Dates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reference Names \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you. For information, comments and/or answers to questions, please contact CDRI at:

lgordon@cdri.org

www.cdri.org

432-364-2499

**Release from Liability**

Name of Host Participants: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Dates of Service: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I, or we fully understand and agree that participation in the CDRI Nature Center Volunteer Host Program (the “Program”), as well as any and all other activities associated therewith, including volunteer activities, as well as using CDRI or my/our own equipment or property, may result in accidental or other damage or injury to me/us, or my/our property.

I/we accept **all risks** directly or indirectly attributable to the CDRI Nature Center Volunteer Host Program, including but not limited to disclosed risks and/or risks known/foreseen or unknown/unforeseen that may not have disclosed, and accept personal responsibility for the loss, cost and damages following any such accident, loss or incident. I/we and my/our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns agree to assume the risks of such injury, loss or damage and do hereby RELEASE, ACQUIT, and FOREVER DISCHARGE CDRI and its successors, assigns, directors, agents, employees and their affiliates (collectively the “Released Parties”), from any and all manner of causes of action, lawsuits, claims, demands, judgments and damages of every kind and nature, know or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, including but not limited to, claims of negligence of any kind by the Released Parties that could in any way arise as a direct or indirect result of the CDRI Nature Center Volunteer Host Program.

The Released Parties shall not be liable or responsible for, and are held harmless by me/us from and against any and all claims and damages of every kind, including reasonable and necessary costs and attorneys’ fees, for injury to or death of any person and for damage to or loss of property, which I, or my heirs or assigns, have or may have arising out of or associated with, directly or indirectly, my participation in the Program, including as a result of the condition of the Released Parties’ property.

By signing this Release, I state and declare: i) I have carefully read and fully understand all of its terms, and ii) I voluntarily execute it while fully understanding its legal consequences.

**Host Participant’s Signatures:**

Print: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_

**BACKGROUND CHECK FORM FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS**

I hereby authorize CDRI to perform a background check on me/us concerning my/out participation in a Host Program at the Nature Center and Botanical Gardens. I understand CDRI utilizes a third party firm to perform these checks and that the only reports that will be issued are reports of “exceptions” to what would otherwise be a check that produces no exceptions. The information utilized for the check and the report (including a report confirming no exceptions) will be retained by CDRI in a secure location, with CDRI agreeing to utilize the same degree of care it utilizes in storing and retaining its own confidential information, including employee information.

PLEASE duplicate this information for each person participating in the Host Program. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DOB, Driver’s License and State of Issuance

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Soc. Sec. # and Printed Name on Soc. Sec. Card

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address on D/L or previous address, City, State, zip

***I have not lived outside the U.S. during the last 7 years.***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature, printed and signed

**HOST VOLUNTEER SPECIFICS**

* If you have pets, describe (it/them) in detail
* What are the start and end dates you propose serving as Host Volunteers
* Please list tasks you are comfortable doing, such as greeting the public, staffing the visitor desk and working the register for fees and gift shop sales, assisting with site related work, with training-serving as a guide for hikes and/or garden tours, assisting with cleaning the visitor center, others
* Please list all prior Host Volunteer experience (dates, tasks, location, positive aspects and things of concern regarding the experience, etc.).
* Please list any physical limitations that will or may impact your acceptable range of Volunteer Host tasks.