Process for becoming a new Summit Steward Volunteer

1. All interested potential new Summit Steward Volunteers must contact the Stewardship Manager to discuss the position requirements and expectations, receive information about volunteering, and schedule training.

2. All new Summit Steward Volunteers are **required** to attend training prior to performing stewardship activities and this training needs to be approved by DEC and ADK.

3. All Summit Steward Volunteers must commit to a minimum of 5 days of volunteering over the course of the field season (mid-May through Columbus Day). These days shall be scheduled in advance with the Stewardship Manager, and are subject to the availability and needs of the individual volunteer and the Summit Stewardship Program.

4. All new volunteers must spend a minimum of three days in the field team stewarding with the Stewardship Manager. At the end of this period, the volunteer, Stewardship Manager, and a DEC representative will make a determination about the volunteer's readiness to steward solo.

5. Returning volunteers are required to attend a brief refresher at the beginning of the season, mainly to reinforce proper radio protocol.

6. Each volunteer is required to fill out an Individual Volunteer application (http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/indvolunteerapp.pdf) prior to the beginning of the field season. This application is valid for a period of 5 years. The Stewardship Manager will send all applications for all Summit Steward Volunteers to the DEC Region 5 Regional Forester.