Volunteer Opportunity Description: *Endangered Species Research-Plant Monitoring Unit*

**Description/Purpose**
Assist in Arboretum research on endangered species. The plant monitoring unit performs demographic monitoring and survey work recording ecological data for listed species. The purpose of the monitoring is to learn more about the listed species’ population biology as well as to watch population health.

**Responsibilities/Tasks**
- Record population census/demographic data – including number of plants, area covered, number of flowering individuals, number of fruiting individuals, etc.
- Record associated species
- Record location with GPS unit and/or maps
- Sign confidentiality form to ensure protection of listed species locations

**Required Skills**
- Ability to work long hours on potentially overnight trips in outdoor conditions in variable weather, sometimes at remote locations in the state
- Understanding how to use a GPS unit is helpful
- Basic understanding of plant biology to be able to record phenological/morphological data
- Good attention to detail
- Ability to work independently

**Time Commitment and Schedule Details**
Tentative Future Schedule:
March - April – Training sessions (one or two sessions, scheduled with group)
March - April – Scheduling meeting
April - September – Monitoring trips, some of them at the Arboretum but most off-site.
Sometimes multiple day.

*Given training commitment, volunteer applicants with willingness to work in the unit for more than one year are given preference.*

**Benefits/Impact**
- Assist Arboretum in conservation of listed species and contribute to knowledge for future conservation efforts.
- Visit beautiful and remote parts of Minnesota.
- Opportunity to work with endangered species.
- Meet other volunteers and staff enthusiastic about the outdoors and botany.

**Work Environment:**
How to Apply for this Opportunity
If you are currently an Arboretum Volunteer and would like to apply for this opportunity, please contact the supervisor listed below.

Staff Supervisor & Contact Information
To get more information or to RSVP for the information session on February 18th, please contact:

David Remucal, PhD
Curator of Endangered Plants
remu0005@umn.edu
612-301-1838

To apply for this volunteer opportunity, you first need to become a registered Arboretum volunteer. To find out more and get started, please visit our website and check out the How to Volunteer page.