

Delaware Canal State Park
Friends of the Delaware Canal

Canal Tender Guidelines

Thank you so much for volunteering to improve the Delaware Canal!
We hope that you'll find caring for your section of the Canal rewarding and fun.

WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU:

1. Heavy-duty trash bags
2. Work gloves

ALSO USEFUL OR SOMETIMES NECESSARY:

1. Daypack for carrying supplies, water, snack, poncho, etc.
2. Additional tools such as pruning shears, rake, net for fishing objects out of the water, and such. Once you are familiar with your section, you'll have a much better idea of what is most useful for you.
3. First-aid kit, insect repellent, sunscreen, sunglasses, and wet-wipes.
4. Binoculars, pocket knife, hand lens, camera (don't forget to send your photos for the on-line *Flora and Fauna Atlas*).

WHAT TO DO:

1. COMPLETE A PA CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER FORM. Becoming an official volunteer of the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources allows you to be covered by the State's liability policy, if you are involved in an accident. Please go online to www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us/VolunteerApplication.aspx and submit your information there, or if you need a paper copy, just let us know.
2. PICK UP LITTER AND DEBRIS. If your area is too badly littered, remove the most obvious and offensive and provide FODC with a clear description of the location of extensive trash or large objects. Leave your bags of trash at pre-arranged Park pick-up spots or take them home with you.
3. REMOVE ANY OBSTRUCTION FROM THE TOWPATH that could endanger or trip cyclists, joggers, and unwary walkers. This includes things such as fallen branches, branches growing far out over the towpath, and vines, wire, or rope on or across the towpath.
4. LOCATE INVASIVE SPECIES and call FODC for advice as to how to handle.
5. WATCH FOR AND REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT CHANGES OR ANYTHING UNUSUAL. If you observe any of the following serious conditions, call in your report to the Delaware Canal State Park Office (610-982-5560).
 - a. A leak or break in the canal bank large enough to cause a whirlpool on the surface of the water.
 - b. Vandalism to a flood control gate
 - c. Towpath failure
 - d. A condition which can endanger a Park visitor

The procedures to follow for other changes are:

1. Call FODC to report the change or unusual condition if you feel that it is something that merits prompt attention.

OR

2. Include the change in your written report
6. MAKE NOTES AND REPORT ON FLORA AND FAUNA. You may want to take photos to and submit them for the Flora and Fauna Atlas at www.fodc.org. The Atlas web page includes a list of online resources that may help if you need to identify what you've seen.
7. SUBMIT A COPY OF YOUR CANAL TENDER REPORT TO FODC AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR. If you would like to provide additional reports during the year, they would be very welcome. You can print additional copies of the Report form by going to www.fodc.org and clicking on Members/Volunteers – Canal Tenders.
8. GET TO KNOW YOUR SECTION. There are members of the Friends who know about the history, geology, and ecology of the Canal. Contact FODC to get in touch with these knowledgeable people and find out about other places where you can learn more about the waterway and its surroundings.

FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL (FODC)
CONTACT INFORMATION

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Address: 145 South Main Street, New Hope, PA 18938

Please feel free to contact us as often as you'd like.