

BMAP Work Party FAQs

Specific details regarding a particular Work Party can be found in the event description for that Work Party. These details include: 1) property location and Host contact information, 2) Work Party timing, 3) the work to be completed and habitat type, 4) if tools will be provided by the host, and 5) if a snack will be shared. Please review the event details closely before contacting the Host directly with a question or concern.

The below details provide a general outline of what BMAP Work Party volunteers should wear and bring to a Work Party. Contact the BMAP Work Party Coordinator, Tom Broman, with broader questions or concerns: thbroman@hotmail.com or (608) 437-9140.

1. Come dressed for work and ticks: long pants and long-sleeved shirt, tall socks to tuck pants into or gators to cover lower legs. Tick repellent sprayed onto your outer clothes and hat are a big help. It is not recommended to spray repellent onto your skin.

Wear a long-sleeved shirt that can be rolled up when conditions permit. Broad brimmed hat for sun protection. Long sleeves are required when removing parsnip since the juices of the plant cause a severe rash. Bring gloves that are sturdy but flexible to allow for use of hand and power tools.

2. Safety glasses can be handy and are necessary when working closely with others, especially while doing brush work.
3. At this time, herbicide use at BMAP Work Parties is limited to cut-stump applications. Work Party volunteers are NOT required to handle or apply herbicide. Hosts should invite any Work Party participant who is uncomfortable using an herbicide to opt in to an alternative job. In addition, the Host is required to supply all Work Party volunteers with the appropriate herbicide PPE: including latex or rubber gloves and protective eyewear.
4. Tools (like pruners, loppers, and TPE's Parsnip Predator) may either be provided by the host and/or by volunteer participants. Check each Work Party event for a detailed description for tool needs.
5. The use of chainsaws by BMAP Work Party volunteers is not currently permitted. Brush cutters may be used, provided the volunteer wears their own PPE and operates their own machine safely. Hosts should invite any Work Party volunteer who is uncomfortable using a power tool to opt into an alternative job that is at a safe and appropriate distance from machinery.

Anyone using a power tool (e.g. brush cutter) will be asked to wear Personal Protective Equipment such as protective headgear with a face shield, eye protection, ear protection, long pants (preferably chaps), long sleeves, and sturdy work gloves

6. Steel-toed boots are a good choice for all to wear. Foot injuries take a long time to heal.
7. Bring a small backpack for a personal snack and water bottle for breaks.