

# Merced Irrigation District

## Parks and Recreation Department

### MID Campground Host Program

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#### Background Information

The Merced Irrigation District (MID) is a California irrigation district formed and existing pursuant to California law. Among other things, MID owns and operates the New Exchequer and McSwain Dams on the Merced River approximately 20 miles north and east of the town of Snelling, including the parks and recreation facilities associated with Lakes McClure and McSwain. These facilities include campgrounds at Lake McSwain, McClure Point, Barrett Cove, and Horseshoe Bend.

The Board of Directors for MID (Board) has created a Campground Host Program for the purpose of encouraging volunteer service from members of the public to temporarily “live in” and be a visible host for MID parks facilities. This packet is intended to provide volunteer campground hosts with information needed to apply for a campground host position, and to inform campground hosts of their duties and responsibilities. Applications will be accepted year-round and should be on the form provided in Attachment A to this packet. Applications must be received at least thirty (30) days in advance of the time perspective campground hosts wish to serve. Completed applications should be directed to the MID Director of Parks and Recreation.

General questions may be directed to:

MID Director of Parks and Recreation

Brooke Gutierrez

9090 Lake McClure Road

Snelling, CA 95369

209-722-5761

[bgutierrez@mercedid.org](mailto:bgutierrez@mercedid.org)

MID’s Campground host Program runs year-round as the needs of MID require, however MID campgrounds typically are most heavily used between the months of May and October. Campground hosts typically serve for a period of between 4 weeks and 6 months. The MID Director of Parks and Recreation may extend the service of a campground host at his/her discretion based upon the qualifications of the host and the need/convenience of MID.

If there is more than one applicant to serve as a volunteer campground host for a particular time period, or specific MID park location, an interview may be conducted by the MID Director of Parks and the successful candidate will be selected. Prospective campground hosts not chosen for a particular time period or location may be offered volunteer service at a different time or location. The number of consecutive years that a campground host may serve may be limited in order to allow others an

opportunity to volunteer. All campground hosts must undergo a successful background check, and must sign the Merced Irrigation District Volunteer Campground Host Service Agreement.

Campground hosts are provided an assigned campsite in exchange for their volunteer service. Depending on the assigned camp location, water, electric and/or sewer services may or may not be provided. Prospective camp hosts should inquire about services at specific locations prior to assignment. Hosts provide their own camping vehicles and equipment, and personal items during the time service, and must display MID permits on their vehicles at all times. Other equipment that may be needed to efficiently perform the campground host responsibilities may be provided at the discretion of the MID Director of Parks and Recreation, such as a golf cart.

### **Job Functions and Responsibilities**

Campground hosts typically work independent of MID staff and report to the MID Director of Parks and Recreation. Campground hosts must be over 18 years of age and must not have any felony convictions. Generally, campground hosts interpret and inform features and attractions at MID parks and recreation facilities to members of the public. Campground hosts are strictly considered volunteers and are not compensated for their service other than what may be provided for in the Volunteer Campground Host Service Agreement. Each of MID's campground locations are different and unique, and therefore the needs and responsibilities of a campground host may vary at each location slightly.

Campground hosts temporarily reside at the assigned campsite, serving as a helpful and informative interface for MID at campgrounds. Campground hosts enhance the experience of members of the public at MID parks facilities, assist campers by providing informational materials, answering questions and explaining rules in a pleasant and helpful manner. Campground hosts should set a good example by being a model camper, keeping their campsite neat and orderly, and in good repair at all times. Campground hosts should be familiar with MID campground rules and regulations, locations for services such as fuel and supplies may be obtained, as well as locations for local points of interest.

Campground hosts should perform regular and routine campground checks to ensure the pleasant experience of park visitors, confirm the campsite and registration of campground guests, and to ensure the neat and orderly appearance of the campground. Although campground hosts may be assigned light-duty tasks by MID staff from time to time, hosts can expect to perform light maintenance work around their assigned campground such as but not limited to litter pickup, sweeping, light restroom cleanup and stocking, etc. Campground hosts may be asked to assist with information and schedule distribution, special events promotion, or assisting with programs for special events.

Essential job functions include: representing MID in a positive manner at all times; assist MID staff upon request; provide general information and assistance to members of the public upon request; be informed of and able to effectively communicate directions to MID parks facilities and other local points of interest, park usage fees, and MID rules and regulations; be able to work the time commitments and schedule set forth in the Volunteer Campground Host Service Agreement; willingness and ability to follow MID Rules and Regulations; maintain a neat and orderly campsite; sit, stand or walk for prolonged

periods of time as may be needed to perform campground host responsibilities; be able to bend, walk, lift, stoop, carry or drag items that may be associated with campground operations; walk or hike on uneven ground; and, be able to communicate orally and document activities and incidents in writing.

In order to effectively respond to emergencies or other situations that may require immediate or prompt attention, campground hosts may be assigned a MID radio and/or cell phone. At no time are campground hosts authorized to engage in any type of law/rules enforcement. All emergencies, issues and related incidents should be reported to the on-duty Park Ranger, the MID Director of Parks and Recreation, and if appropriate, call 911 to notify law enforcement or emergency personnel.

By signing below I certify that I have read, understand fully, and agree to fully comply with the information and requirements set forth herein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Campground Host Volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Attachment A**

**Application to serve as Volunteer Campground Host**