

Welcome to Civic Engagement! As part of our goal of promoting volunteerism and service-learning activity at the University of Montana, we are collaborating with the ASUM student group Volunteers in Action to bring you the Alternative Breaks Program. Alternative Breaks coordinates two to four trips every year where teams of students travel to a new community and perform short-term volunteer projects during school breaks. The focus of each trip ranges from improving social conditions of those in need to working with the disabled to working on environmental improvement projects. This year's trips are shaping up to be especially exciting!

Alternative Break Mission

To serve as an opportunity for students to engage in fun, educational, service-based trips, by taking them out of their college community and immersing them into new realms of society and service. To heighten social awareness, provide for personal development, and group building. To advocate life-long civic involvement.

Check out our website at <http://www.umt.edu/civic-engagement/> for a detailed history of the Alternative Breaks program and other information about Civic Engagement.

Project Description

Environmental Restoration in Moab UT

- Students will leave **March 19th** and return **March 25th**.
- Students will work with **Plateau Restoration Inc.**
- Students will be camping in **Arches National Park**.
- Students will learn about the unique eco-system in the valley and the dangers it currently faces, as well as work to help restore the area.
- **The cost for this trip will be about \$300.**
- The cost includes transportation expenses, and room and board.
- **Applications are due by Tuesday, February 21st.**

Financial Information

Please note there are student costs associated with these trips. The Office for Civic Engagement is a non-profit, UM organization. Any money collected will be used to cover the costs of room and board, transportation, and program fees and are supplemented by minimal funding from ASUM. We have also secured additional funding from private donors to help keep the cost of the trip down. There will be no refunds if you choose to withdraw from the trip after the final payment to the organization has been made.

Thank you for your interest in the Alternative Breaks Program. We look forward to working with you! If you have any questions about this trip or any of our services and projects contact us anytime.

Kellie Hofstetter
Alternative Breaks Coordinator
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Alternative Spring Break Participant Application

Please complete all portions of this application, including the release of liability for your trip, the drug and alcohol policy, and the questionnaire.

Name _____ Age _____

E-mail address _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

Student I.D. _____ Major _____ Year _____

Allergies and/or medical problems _____

Emergency contact _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____ Address _____

Health Insurance Company and Policy Number _____

How did you hear about the Alternative Break Program? _____

Time commitment as a participant:

* 1-2 pre-trip meetings, approximately an hour in length.

* The trip! (**March 19th-March 25th**)

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

WHEREAS, I wish to participate in the Alternative Spring Break program with the University of Montana by working with Plateau Restoration Inc, and enjoying various sites on the way to and from the site; and,

WHEREAS, I understand that my work will consist of contributing to environmental restoration in Moab, UT; and,

WHEREAS, I understand that I will be camping in Arches National Park in Moab, UT; and,

WHEREAS, I understand and recognize that there exists the possibility and risk of bodily injury to me or damage to my property while traveling to and from Missoula MT, and during my stay in Moab, UT, and my participation in the program; and,

WHEREAS, I understand that my participation in the Alternative Break program is voluntary.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the University of Montana allowing me to participate in this voluntary Alternative Break program, I hereby release, relieve, and hold harmless The University of Montana, its trustees, officers, employees, and representatives from any liability or claim of liability, including liability for bodily injury or property damage arising out of or in connection with my participation in the Alternative Break Program, including my travel to, from and around the location where I will be residing and working during the program, except such liability or claim of liability as may result from the gross negligence on the part of the University of Montana.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read this release of liability and am signing it voluntarily.

Signature and Date

Printed Name and SSN/Student ID#

*All participants must read and sign the drug and alcohol policy and initial that they understand what will be expected of them.

***Alternative Breaks Drug and Alcohol Policy**

As these are University sanctioned service-learning projects, students MUST follow the University of Montana's alcohol and drug policy and conduct themselves in a manner according to the Student Conduct Code. For more information see UM's drug and alcohol policies in the publication, "With Your Personal Safety in Mind." Print copies are available in the offices of Public Safety, ASUM and the Vice President for Student Affairs or by going to <http://www.umt.edu/studentaffairs> . The Student Conduct Code is also available from these sources. The Office of Civic Engagement prohibits illegal drug and alcohol use in violation of applicable laws and UM policy; and conditions participation in the Office of Civic Engagement on compliance with these laws and policies. Persons who violate these laws and policies will be removed from the program.

By signing below, I agree to follow the University of Montana's Alcohol and Drug policy and the Student Code of Conduct while participating in all parts of the Alternative Breaks Program.

Signature and Date

Printed Name and Student ID#

Additional Requirements of the Alternative Breaks Program

Indicate your understanding and acceptance of these requirements by placing your initials next to each item. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in removal from the program.

1. _____ All participants are expected to be ready to work on time each working day, and to contribute a full day of activity as per the program schedule. "Working" hours are considered from **8am until 6pm** (this may be adjusted for your specific program) on all service days. This includes service work, meal preparation, and reflection activities.
2. _____ Participants are not allowed to miss any days of service for any reason excluding sickness or very serious family emergencies.
3. _____ All participants are expected to participate in daily group-reflection activities. These activities will follow your day of service, and are important to help participants incorporate what they have learned. These activities are incorporated into "work hours."

**Office for Civic Engagement, Alternative Breaks Program, Davidson
Honors College 020, Missoula, MT 59812,
406.243.5531**

Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions as completely as possible. The only correct answers are honest answers! Please type your answers on a separate sheet of paper and attach them.

- 1.) Please describe your past community involvement experience.
- 2.) Why are you interested in participating in this Alternative Spring Break Trip?
- 3.) What skills and qualities will you bring to the group and to the experience, and what do you hope to gain?
- 4.) Please describe, as colorfully as you feel appropriate, your ideal break. Your response does not need to have anything to do with this program (although it just might!) and can be as fantastic as you wish. Be creative.
- 5.) [OPTIONAL] If you are interested in more responsibility and leadership experience please note this in your application and give a quick overview of why you think you would be a good fit in a Site Leader position.

Turn in applications ASAP, no later than Tuesday, February 21st. Programs are filled on a first come first serve basis. Participants will be notified as soon as they are chosen.

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