

**Roles and Responsibilities of the  
Columbia Land Conservancy Foraging Monitor in Exchange for Foraging Privileges  
2021**

The work volunteer foraging monitors do to support the Public Conservation Areas is important to maintaining the Areas as a safe place for recreational activities.

Therefore, in exchange for permission from the Conservancy to forage on the Areas, Volunteer Foraging Monitors agree to assist Columbia Land Conservancy with the following responsibilities:

- Provide Columbia Land Conservancy with signed forager liability forms for each monitor and/or their guests that will forage on the Conservation Areas prior to conducting any foraging activities on the property.
- Follow all New York State foraging rules and regulations.
- Help with communication to neighbors about safe foraging practices, rules and regulations.
- Notifying Columbia Land Conservancy regarding non-permitted activities at the Public Conservation Areas when unauthorized uses are observed—including ATV use, poaching, plant removal, littering, vandalism, off leash dog walking, camping, firewood cutting etc. This must be done without confrontation or risking harm to volunteer monitors or any other individuals. Any conflicts or recurring/unresolved issues will be reported to the Conservancy immediately.
- Immediate reporting of ANY observed safety issues to Columbia Land Conservancy.
- Other activities as agreed upon by forager and Columbia Land Conservancy.

## WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY BY PERSONS ENGAGED IN FORAGING ACTIVITIES

### Public Conservation Areas, Columbia County, New York

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Forager: \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of my participation as a forager on the Public Conservation Areas named above ("**Public Conservation Areas**") that is owned by Columbia Land Conservancy ("**Conservancy**") and leased to the Forager named above, I state and agree as follows:

1. I am familiar with and understand the rules associated with Foraging on the Public Conservation Areas.
2. I am in good health, and I am aware of no physical problem or condition which will limit or interfere with my ability to participate in foraging on the Public Conservation Areas under either predicted or emergency conditions. I also understand that medical attention may not be readily available.
3. I agree to exercise the highest degree of care in the conduct of my foraging activities on the Public Conservation Areas, so as to avoid the risk of personal injury or property damage.
4. I acknowledge that foraging is inherently dangerous and that I am aware of the risk and dangers involved in the foraging activities, which include, but are not limited to, illness resulting from consuming foraged species, accidents or illnesses occurring in remote places without medical facilities, dangers caused by other foragers and Public Conservation Areas visitors, and dangers resulting from natural and man-made conditions in the foraging area.
5. I hereby assume all responsibility for any injury to persons or damages to property which occur in connection with my use of the Public Conservation Areas for foraging.
6. On behalf of myself, my heirs, successors, and assigns, I hereby forever release, indemnify and hold the Conservancy, its officers, directors, employees and agents, harmless from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, damages, costs and expenses arising from or in any way related to, my presence or activities on the Public Conservation Areas. I intend this release to be effective, regardless of whether the claim of liability is asserted in negligence, strict liability in tort, or other theory of recovery.
7. I further agree to be responsible for any injuries or damage caused by my failure to follow instructions or because of any inaccurate statements I have made in this release.
8. I agree that I am foraging on the Public Conservation Areas at my own risk and acknowledge that the Conservancy has made no warranty or representation, express or implied, regarding the safety of foraging on this Public Conservation Areas.
9. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have thoroughly read and understand this form and that the statements I have made in it are all true, and that I am at least 18 years of age or, if I am not 18 years of age, the signature and consent of my parent or legal guardian is included below.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Forager

Date **Acknowledgment by Public Lands Manager**

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have thoroughly reviewed this form with the forager named above.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative of Forager  
Date