



Video Transcript: What are Tree Tubes?

Hi, my name is Kevin Gross and I'm the Volunteer Program Director here in Cuyahoga Valley National Park of the co-managed volunteer program with the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

One of the greatest impacts that volunteers have here in Cuyahoga Valley is with how many trees they planted over the last several years. While you're hiking in the park you may notice some areas where we've had volunteers plant trees, and some of these trees you may notice have these weird looking tubes surrounding them when they're young. So luckily, I'm here with Park Ranger Erin Walters who can tell us a little bit about why we have to put these plastic tubes around the trees.

Thanks Kevin! Here I am next to a tree with the tree tube on it. This was put on the tree as soon as it was planted and it helps to protect the tree from deer browsing and other animals trying to eat its leaves.

With the tree tube, it's exactly high enough so that deer can't really grab on the leaves because the deer aren't tall enough to get them. The tree tube itself is kind of this whiteish kind of clear plastic that allows the sunlight to get through, so the tree can still grow with the tree tube on it. They don't hurt the tree at all, but it does help to protect them until they're big enough to be able to survive on their own and don't have to worry about the deer eating them. So when they are big enough and when they're mature trees, we do take them off and then they're able to be in the forest without any tree tubes.

Thank you Erin! So to find out more about volunteer opportunities in Cuyahoga Valley National Park, go to forcvnp.org.