



Position Title: Year-round Naturalist

Position Service Site: Beaver Creek Reserve (Fall Creek, WI)

Service Time: September 6, 2022 – August 18, 2023 (1,700 Hour AmeriCorps Term) (50 weeks) (35hrs/wk)

Benefits: Living allowance total for whole term = \$23,000 (\$460.00/week), Education Award = \$6,495.00 upon successful completion of service.

Housing available.

Requirements: Covid-19 vaccine required.

OVERVIEW: Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) is an environmental center founded in 1947. The 400-acre reserve includes the Eau Claire County Youth Camp, Wise Nature Center, Citizen Science Center, and the Hobbs Observatory. This unique combination of facilities provides a special atmosphere where people, young and old alike, can discover, learn and appreciate the mysteries and miracles of the world where we live. Beaver Creek Reserve is the bridge that connects what youth and adults learn in their everyday environment and adds real-life tangible experiences that support growth and understanding of the natural world.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION: Beaver Creek Reserve's Year-Round Naturalist will assist the education staff with the planning and teaching of existing K-12 and adult programming. The Naturalist will also work on developing a grade-specific curriculum and programming with live animals. All program development will include, writing curriculum, creating props or materials, training volunteers, and presenting programs. The Naturalist will assist in special events like Maple Syrup, Native Plant Sale, Butterfly Fest, Wisconsin Master Naturalist training, and more. The Naturalist will play a significant role in developing, organizing, and leading nature-based summer camps, summer recreation programs, and seasonal programs for all ages. They will also assist in designing publicity for programs and contributing to our newsletter, social media, and our blog. There is a lot of space for personal creativity and inspiration in this position.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist the education staff with the planning and teaching of existing K-12 and adult programming.
- Develop written curriculum based on Wisconsin DPI standards.
- Responsible for leading nature hikes, team-building exercises, and outdoor skills programs.
- Help with annual special events.
- Assist in organizing and leading summer camps.
- Become comfortable working with live reptiles and raptors for programming.
- Assist with the care of live animals.
- Develop interpretive displays and exhibits.
- Assist with minor maintenance and care of exhibits, buildings, and education areas.
- Train and schedule volunteers.
- Assist with website and social media to promote programs and events.
- Contribute to social media through our newsletter, Facebook, and our blog.
- Work some evenings and weekends.

- Assist with upkeep and development of new elements to Nature Nooks and youth outdoor exploration areas.
- Assist with upkeep and development of new elements to Beaver Creek Obstacle Course.
- Assist with the development and upkeep of trail signs and Storybook Hiking Trail.
- Help with the operation of the butterfly house, greenhouse, invasive species removal, and garden projects.
- Research grant opportunities and apply for grants to fund specific education projects and programs.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Education, Biology, or Natural Science degree with interest, knowledge, and experience in the outdoors.
- Strong knowledge base of Wisconsin ecology.
- Teaching experience with ages K -12 grades and adults.
- Summer camp experience.
- Excellent communication skills are essential.
- Enthusiastic, creative and flexible.
- Willingness to learn various recreational and environmental activities.
- Experience in outdoor recreation (kayaking, canoeing, hiking) a plus.

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