

Environmental Educator Intern

Trap Pond State Park

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



CLICK HERE TO APPLY: <https://destateparks.com/volunteer/positions>

DESCRIPTION:

Share your enthusiasm and joy of cultural history and nature with the public and children at this lively state park. You will lead nature-based school programs, public programs, and resources and provide customer service. Opportunities of this position also include planning, preparing, and conducting environmental education programs at the Baldcypress Nature Center. The internship provides the candidate with nature-based interpretive experience, public speaking practice and hands-on experience in operation and administration of nature center operations.

LOCATION

Trap Pond State Park, Laurel, Delaware

<https://destateparks.com/PondsRivers/TrapPond>

TERM OF SERVICE

3 Month or Year Round
Full Time 30-35 hours per week

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist park staff with onsite educational programming.
- Attends to Nature Center; tours/explanation of exhibits, cleans restrooms, answers phone, answers questions, restocks information brochures and guides and provides direction to park visitors.
- Leads education programs for general public and school groups
- Leads off site educational programming
- Performs program research and design.
- Leads recreational programming for park visitors.
- May perform conservation work, invasive species removal, or trail maintenance.
- May assist with boat rentals, guided canoe/kayak trips, or pontoon boat tours.
- May assist with recreational or educational wagon rides.
- Other tasks as assigned

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Appreciation of nature and conservation
- Desire to provide environmental education and interpretive opportunities
- Pleasant and personable.
- Independent and responsible
- Able to stand for long periods or to walk trails accompanying participants
- Able to communicate effectively with a diverse public
- Ability to understand and follow verbal and written instructions

- Attends training and performs duties in compliance with Division and Park Customer Service Guidelines and Safety Guidelines
- Weekend, holidays, and evenings required.

PREFERRED SKILLS

- Experience in education or child care.
- Experience with small boat operations
- Knowledge of zoology, botany, taxonomy, or environmental studies.

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the Nature Center Manager.

BENEFITS

- **Training:** A hallmark of the program, interns receive training from the field experts they will be working with. Includes Seasonal Interpreter Training and FA/CPR. In addition to this formal and informal training to successfully conduct their internship assignment, interns will have the opportunity to build associated skills and share real-time experience with park staff and colleagues. Training will be made available to the interns to further their personal and professional development.
- **Housing:** Limited co-ed housing is available, at no fee, for interns providing full-time hours (30 or more per week). If selected for housing, an intern will share a house, duplex or dorm facility with other interns.
- **Activities:** Interns will have the opportunity not only to visit ALL Delaware State Parks at no fee, but also participate in many of the tours, programs, and associated events for free. Delaware State Parks span the length of the state and whether it be canoeing at Trap Pond State Park, surfing at Delaware Seashore State Park, attending a concert at Bellevue State Park, or touring the living history facility at Fort Delaware, there is certainly something for everyone.
- **Stipend Available:** Interns are not employees of the State of Delaware- they are considered volunteers and are not paid for their service. Interns may elect to receive a stipend to help cover expenses incurred during their volunteer intern service. The stipend is a fixed amount of \$100 per week for service of 30 or more hours per week or \$50.00 per week for service of between 20 – 29 hours/ week paid biweekly as a direct deposit into the Intern's bank account.
 - The stipend is not a wage, but does count toward the total income on which the intern's tax obligation is based. Interns electing to receive the stipend will complete IRS Form W-9 Request for Tax-Payer Identification as self-employed and will receive a Form 1099 at the end of the year that reports the amount of income from the stipend. No taxes are withheld from the stipend.

All Delaware State Parks Interns are required to undergo and successfully complete a background check performed by the Division.

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The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce