

Environmental Education Intern

Lums Pond State Park

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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

DESCRIPTION

Want to ignite a lifelong appreciation of the outdoors in young children? Looking for a way to share your love for the natural world? In this position you will have the opportunity to! As a part of Lums Pond State Park Environmental Education Team you will be working with pre-school and school-aged children in programs, outdoor environmental education programs and specialty / recreational programs. In this position interns will be an integral part of our team and be expected to take on leadership roles. Will be working in all kinds of weather, walking and hiking around the pond, and some physical labor might be required. Some weekend and evening work will also be required.

LOCATION

Lums Pond State Park, Bear, Delaware

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

TERM OF SERVICE

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

YEAR ROUND/ (12 MONTHS) – 30+ HOURS PER WEEK

6 MONTHS /SPRING –SUMMER (March 1- Aug 31) – 30 + hours per week

6 Months/ Summer - Fall (June 1-November 30) – 30 + hours per week

***3 MONTH POSITIONS OR REDUCED HOURS POSITIONS MAY BE AVAILABLE**

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Interact with park visitors and assist them as needed, be a front-line representative of Delaware State Parks.
- Help plan and develop programs.
- Assist with weekend programs as needed.
- Assist with trail maintenance as it relates to programs.
- Provide direction and answer questions of program participants.
- Help gather materials and assist in set up and clean-up for assigned program.
- Lead Nature walks: talking to and leading a group of kids or families on trails.
- Report suggestions and observations.
- Assist in operation of Nature Center; tours/ explanation of exhibits, cleanliness, answer questions, restock information brochures and guides and provide direction.
- Assist with onsite and off-site school programs.
- Assist with planning of large special events.
- Assist with running of Hayrides and campfires.
- Assist with roving programs in the park and campground.

REQUIREMENTS

- Appreciation and understanding of the natural environment.

- Experience working with children
- Must be able to swim – training includes kayak and canoe certification
- Understanding of educational principles and techniques- experience in teaching or educational programming helpful
- Experience with a diversity of age groups (especially preschool aged) preferred
- Desire to help provide environmental education and interpretive opportunities
- Presents program as instructed by Park Interpreter, Educator or Nature Center Manager
- Pleasant and personable. Relates well with people
- Independent and responsible
- Able to assist with both Indoor and Outdoor programs
- Able to stand for long periods or to walk trails accompanying participants
- Able to operate simple audio-visual equipment
- Able to communicate effectively with a diverse public
- Able to speak publicly in front of groups or audiences
- 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
- Experience in the outdoors preferred, (hiking, fishing, biking)
- Must be able to attend all trainings

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Excellent people skills (especially with children)
- Conscientious and mature
- Able to work as part of a team

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the Lead Naturalist of Lums Pond State Park.

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