

AREC Environmental Education Intern

Fish & Wildlife's Aquatic Resources Education Center

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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

DESCRIPTION

Looking to inspire a love of the outdoors and our world's natural resources in the next generation? In this position, you will work at Delaware Aquatic Resources Education Center's new facility to lead educational programs in a beautiful tidal salt marsh. In this position, you will be an integral part of delivering State of Delaware curriculum to diverse 5th grade classes from all over the state through the "Eco-Explorers" program, and you will help present youth fishing events through the "Take a Kid Fishing" program.

"Eco-Explorers" is a salt marsh ecology field trip program for groups of students that runs from late March until the end of May. Field trips occur Tuesday through Friday, between 9 AM and 1:30 PM at the ARE Center. Youth Fishing Education at the ARE Center is provided through the "Take a Kid Fishing!" program. In this position, you will help other AREC staff and volunteers instruct groups of children and families during the spring and summer of 2018, and will help with maintaining equipment and other programmatic tasks. Fishing events occur on weekends and some weekdays at the ARE Center and fishing ponds throughout the state. Training for both the "Eco-Explorers" and "Take a Kid Fishing" programs is provided by experienced environmental education staff.

LOCATION Aquatic Resource Education Center, Smyrna, DE
www.de.gov/arec

TERM OF SERVICE Spring/Summer – 6 months
Part Time 20-30 hours per week
Tuesday – Saturday 8:30am-1:30pm + *additional hours during events/off-site presentations*
Preferred Start – early March

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Educate 5th grade students about living and non-living components in the tidal salt marsh
- Interact with teachers and adult chaperones on Eco-Explorers field trips
- Set-up/breakdown of necessary equipment for field trip
- Help collect fish and macroinvertebrates for students to use
- Help maintain equipment
- Prepare for fishing education events
- Assist with fishing instruction and activities at programs and outreach events for families and groups of children at the AREC and throughout the state
- Interact professionally with other staff, volunteers, and members of the public at the fishing events
- Maintain fishing equipment and supplies
- Other duties as assigned

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Good communication skills in dealing with the public and with co-workers
- Maintains a positive attitude and a calm demeanor when presented with challenges or sudden changes
- Team player
- Able to present educational material to diverse audiences of different age/learning levels
- Enjoys working outdoors in all types of weather
- Familiar with or willing to learn about wildlife and fish of Delaware
- Able to construct professional emails
- Fluent in MS Office features (Outlook, Word, etc)
- Fishing experience a plus
- Experience with Special Education a plus

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the Trainer/Educator at AREC.

BENEFITS

- **Training:** A hallmark of the program, interns receive training from the field experts they will be working with. 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