

# Environmental Education Intern

## Cape Henlopen State Park

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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

### DESCRIPTION

Spend your day working and learning at the beach!! 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 public programs daily, school programs as scheduled, assist with day camp programs as needed and provide customer service at the Seaside Nature Center. The internship provides the candidate with nature-based interpretive experience, public speaking practice and hands-on experience in environmental education programming. In addition, interns may have the opportunity to plan and develop youth environmental education programs.

### LOCATION

Cape Henlopen State Park, Lewes, DE

<https://destateparks.com/Beaches/CapeHenlopen>

### TERM OF SERVICE

Spring – 6 months – Full Time 30-35 hours per week / **Preferred Start** – early March

Summer – 12 weeks – Full Time 30-35 hours per week / **Preferred Start** – late May/early June

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist with conducting public and group programs, focusing on environmental education of the natural history of Cape Henlopen (marine biology, coastal ecology, botany, etc.) *\*Involves preparation, clean-up and may help with planning of programs*
- May include day camp programs (summer)
- Assists with daily care and maintenance of aquariums and live animal specimens as directed
- Assists with various tasks to enhance and promote Cape Henlopen State Park's interpretive plan, including manning the front desk, answering phones, and light maintenance duties
- Will involve working a minimum of one weekend day and/or one evening a week
- Other duties as assigned

### REQUIRED SKILLS

- Must be able to work flexible hours, including weekends and holidays
- An interest in environment, education or environmental interpretation
- Willing to study and learn Delaware natural history
- Prepared to work in hot, humid conditions
- Willing to get wet and muddy
- Able to communicate effectively with a diverse public and speak publicly in front of groups or audiences
- Public speaking experience (or comfort learning)
- Ability to understand and appreciate the natural context of the program
- Professional appearance and demeanor, responsible and trustworthy

- Pleasant and personable, enjoys people, good customer service skills
- Works well independently or as a cooperative, contributory team member
- Presents program as directed by Interpretive Programs Manager
- Able to assist with both Indoor and outdoor programs
- Able to stand for long periods, lift 20 pounds from crouching position, and walk 2 miles
- Comfortable working around water and with live animals
- Performs duties in compliance with Division and Park Customer Service Guidelines and Safety Guidelines
- Knowledge of natural history, ecology, cultural history, environmental education and/or biology
- Experience teaching and working with children and/or interpretation with public groups

#### 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