



Environmental Education Intern

Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve – St. Jones Reserve

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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

MISSION

The Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve (DNERR) is one of 29 National Research Reserves across the country whose goal is to establish, protect, and manage natural estuarine habitats for research, education, and coastal stewardship. It was established in 1993, and is a cooperative program between the State of Delaware and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Our mission at the DNERR is to preserve and manage natural resources through coastal stewardship within the Reserve as a place for research, and for providing education and outreach programs that promote better understanding of Delaware's estuarine and coastal areas, and to promote informed coastal decision-making.

DESCRIPTION

Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve (DNERR) is currently seeking applications for an Environmental Education Intern. The intern will learn about estuarine ecology and coastal processes. They will learn how to translate science information into age-appropriate learning materials and activities. The intern will learn different teaching techniques to use in a classroom and informal settings and gain valuable hands-on science teaching experience, public speaking skills, leadership skills and organizational skills.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the Internship the intern:

- Will be able to identify at least 25 commonly found estuary animals.
- Will be able to identify at least 10 commonly found estuarine plants.
- Will plan, write, and give an original one hour interpretive public program.
- Will have a working knowledge of the differences between interpretation, and formal and informal education.
- Will be able to create engaging and effective social media posts.
- Will be able to safely and effectively lead both canoe and boat trips on flat water.
- Will have better public speaking skills.

LOCATION

St. Jones Reserve, Dover, DE

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/coastal/dnerr/pages/stjonesreserve.aspx>

TERM

Summer – 12 weeks – Full Time 37.5 hours per week

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Interact with reserve visitors and assist them as needed, be a front-line representative of DNERR
- Assist with programs
- Help plan and develop programs
- Lead/Assist with weekend programs
- Assist with staffing information booths at community events
- 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
- Lead/Assist with canoe and boat trips
- Report suggestions and observations
- Assist in operation of the Visitor Center cleanliness, answer phone, answer questions, restock information brochures and guides and provide direction
- Assist with onsite and off-site school programs
- Assist in the management of Reserve social media platforms
- Other duties as assigned

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Experience public speaking
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to lift 50lbs
- Ability to swim
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Possession of a valid driver's license and own transportation

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the DNERR Education Coordinator.

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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