

Outdoor Summer Camp Intern

Brandywine Creek State Park

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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

DESCRIPTION

The summer outdoor day camps at Brandywine Creek focus on getting children to explore and enjoy spending time outdoors. Interns will also have a substantial amount of contact with staff, children, and parents.

Join the Brandywine Creek State Park Summer Camp Team! You will spend the summer learning to ignite a lifelong appreciation of the outdoors in young children! Ideal candidate has excellent people skills (especially with children), is fun, creative, energetic, safe, conscientious, mature, and able to work as part of a team. Looking for a way to share your love for the natural world? In this position you will have the opportunity to! In this internship you will be working with pre-school and school-aged children in summer camps, outdoor environmental education programs and specialty / recreational programs. Interns will be an integral part of our camp team and be expected to take on leadership roles. They will receive summer camp and first aid training and will assist with teaching activities and recreation programs to campers. Summer camp can be a physically demanding activity, requiring long hours outside in the heat of the summer. Some weekend and evening work will also be required.

LOCATION

Brandywine Creek State Park, Wilmington, DE

<https://destateparks.com/FieldsStreams/BrandywineCreek>

TERM OF SERVICE

Summer – 12 weeks – Full Time 35-40 hours per week

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work as part of a team of day camp counselors and naturalists to provide quality care for campers of ages 4-14
- Assist the park naturalists and camp director with planning of summer camps.
- Lead summer camp activities for campers
- Be a role model and leader for our summer campers, working to ensure they have a safe and fun camp environment all summer long
- Showing dedication and commitment to your camp team which all have the same goal of a safe and enjoyable summer.
- Design summer camp games and crafts that are age appropriate
- Create a safe and enjoyable environment for all campers and staff
- Identify and respond to camper behavior issues
- Ensure the camp building and surrounding area are clean, organized, and free of any hazards

- Interact with park visitors and assist them as needed, be a front-line representative of Delaware State Parks
- Assist with weekend programs as needed
- 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 phone, answer questions, restock information brochures and guides and provide direction.
- Other duties as assigned
- Abide by all Delaware State Parks camp and safety regulations

REQUIREMENTS

- Able to work in varied weather conditions for up to 8 hours
- An interest in nature, ecology, education, and outdoor recreation
- Understanding of educational principles and techniques- experience in teaching or educational programming helpful
- Experience in summer camp preferred
- 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
- Ability to create enjoyable hands-on activities and games
- Ability to organize and lead camp activities
- Public speaking experience (or comfort learning)
- Professional appearance and demeanor, responsible and trustworthy
- 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
- Experience in the outdoors (hiking), preferred hiking, fishing, biking
- Comfortable working around boats/water
- Attends training and performs duties in compliance with Division and Park Customer Service Guidelines and Safety Guidelines
- Must be able to attend all trainings the first 2 weeks in June

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Excellent people skills (especially with children)
- Enjoys being around children for extended periods of time
- Fun spirited, creative, energetic
- Conscientious and mature
- Able to work as part of a team

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the Interpretive Programs Manager at Brandywine Creek 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