



Camp Thoreau 2019

Program Director: Nature/Environmental Education Job Description

Job Title: Program Director: Nature/Environmental Education

Classification: *Nonexempt (Seasonal)*

Reports to: **Camp Director**

Position Purpose:

To further the mission of Camp Thoreau through the development and delivery of nature or environmental education activities that are safe, fun, and appropriate to the campers' age and abilities and reflect the camp's commitment to stewardship of the natural environment.

Mandatory dates required for the Summer 2019 season:

June 19, 20, 21 (Staff Training)

June 24-July 3rd: Session 1 (closed July 4th and 5th)

July 8-19th: Session 2

July 22-August 2nd: Session 3

August 5-16th: Session 4

Essential Job Functions:

1. Develop and deliver a nature/environmental education program that is appropriate for the age and ability of the campers and utilizes the camp's natural environment:
 - ♦ Write lesson plans that meet camp outcomes and the abilities of the campers and encompass environmental studies with topics such as geology and soils, plant adaptations, wildlife habitat, basic astronomy, water studies, animal science, and natural history.
 - ♦ Implement a variety of age and ability appropriate activities in the above stated environmental areas.
 - ♦ Evaluate the success of the nature or environmental program and modify curriculum as needed.
2. Ensure that camp staff and campers know and follow safety and educational procedures:
 - ♦ Assist in the implementation of staff training for nature or environmental studies.
 - ♦ Train other staff in their responsibilities at nature or environmental studies.
 - ♦ Ensure campers and staff follow safety procedures.
3. Assist in the management and care of the physical facilities and equipment in the Nature or Environmental Program area:
 - ♦ Maintain the Nature or Environmental equipment, such as microscopes, magnifying glasses, compasses, etc.
 - ♦ Ensure that the nature or environmental equipment and supplies are procured and inventoried and steps are taken to replace them in a timely manner.
 - ♦ Conduct a daily check of the area and equipment for safety, cleanliness, and good repair. Complete daily safety log and store equipment properly.

- ◇ Be responsible for observing hazards or enhancements in the natural environment and alerting other appropriate staff.

Other Job Duties:

- ◇ Participate enthusiastically in all camp activities, planning and leading those as assigned.
- ◇ Participate as a member of the camp staff team to deliver and supervise evening programs, special events, and other all-camp activities as needed.

Qualifications (Minimum qualifications and experience)

- ◇ Documented experience or certification in nature or environmental instruction or documented training and experience.
- ◇ Current certification in First Aid/CPR/AED preferred.

Knowledge Skills and Abilities:

- ◇ Training and experience in teaching nature or environmental studies to children.
- ◇ Desire and ability to work with children outdoors in varied conditions.
- ◇ Knowledge of natural history, biology, ecology, and related fields.
- ◇ Experience with care and maintenance of natural displays and exhibits.

Physical Aspects of the Position:

- ◇ Ability to communicate and work with groups participating (age and skill levels) and provide necessary instruction to campers and staff.
- ◇ Ability to observe camper behavior, assess its appropriateness, enforce appropriate safety regulations and emergency procedures, and apply appropriate behavior-management techniques.
- ◇ Ability to observe staff behavior, assess its appropriateness, enforce appropriate safety regulations and emergency procedures, and apply appropriate management techniques.
- ◇ Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards related to the activity.
- ◇ Physical ability to respond appropriately to situations requiring first aid. Must be able to assist campers in an emergency (fire, evacuation, illness, or injury) or severe weather and possess strength and endurance required to maintain constant supervision of campers.
- ◇ Operate with daily exposure to the sun and heat and varying environmental conditions.

Some physical requirements of a nature or environmental education position could be endurance including standing, walking or hiking, some bending, stooping, and stretching. Verbal communication to groups of campers in an outdoor setting. Requires eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity to set up equipment and assist campers. Requires normal range of hearing and eyesight to record, prepare, and communicate appropriate camper activities/program.

