



Position Description Naturalist Educator

Position Type: Part Time, Hourly, Non-Exempt

Salary: Starts at \$10/hour DOE

Benefits: membership privileges

Start Date: On or after January 1, 2019

Organization Description:

Founded in 1913, Fontenelle Forest is one of Nebraska's oldest conservation organizations and one of the largest private nature centers in the nation. Fontenelle Forest aspires to be a national leader in environmental stewardship and education and the region's premier nature center. Fontenelle Forest educational opportunities include early childhood programs that serve children and their parents; extensive school district partnerships and out-of-school STEM and nature-based activities; scouting programs; nature camps; programs for adults and senior citizens, as well as informal education programs, activities, and exhibits.

Job Description:

Fontenelle Forest is seeking a part-time Naturalist Educator to join our team. Fontenelle Forest embraces the values of Integrity, Stewardship, Excellence, Engagement, and Sustainability. As a member of the Fontenelle Forest team every employee helps us achieve our vision to be a national leader in environmental stewardship and education and the region's premier nature center.

The part-time Naturalist Educator is an enthusiastic and dedicated individual who supports Fontenelle Forest's mission to support discovery of the quiet wild of nature and inspire current and future generations to care for the natural world. The Educator facilitates nature-based programs to pre-K through High school students during the school year (January-May, August-December). Additional summer work (June-July) may be available, but not guaranteed. Programs take place onsite at Fontenelle Forest's properties including, but not limited to, Wetlands, Nature Center, Camp Brewster, and Neal Woods. Programs also take place off-site at schools and educational centers. Forest Educators are the face of the Education Department and help excite and engage visitors in exploring the natural world through guided inquiry based experiential learning. This position reports to the Director of Education or its appointee.

Primary Duties:

- Conduct environmental education programs for a variety of ages and audiences
- Available to facilitate a minimum of four programs per week (approximately 12-16 hours), two to five days per week
- General availability when schools are in session Jan-May & mid-August-December. Regular availability during core months (March-May & September-November)
- Manage small and large groups of children within a set tour time
- Facilitate discussion and inquiry-based activities within a predetermined framework set by the Education Department
- Set up prior to and clean up following the program
- Communicate with teachers and chaperones on-site
- Implement program evaluations

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Other Duties:

- Attend organizational and departmental staff meeting
- Maintain accurate reporting of number of attendees and other information as needed
- Work occasional evening/weekend hours to support educational programs
- Work summer programs as needed and available
- Perform other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Ability to communicate ideas and complex concepts concisely
- Prior experience working with youth in a formal or informal environment
- Curiosity and joy of discovery and education
- Flexibility with changes and ability to problem solve quickly
- Ability to manage time and large groups of young people
- Ability to work well as a team with a diverse group of people
- Familiarity with inquiry based learning and educational theory preferred
- Interest and understanding of natural sciences, history, storytelling, social studies
- Ability to work as a member of a team and to build strong working relationships with supervisor and co-workers
- Ability to positively engage with other staff and visitors from diverse backgrounds
- Access and ability to communicate efficiently via e-mail
- Fluency in Spanish preferred
- Ability to pass a criminal background check
- Ability to become Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR certified upon being hired.

Education/Experience:

- Associates Degree or equivalent relevant experience
- Two years' experience in an education and/or nature-based field
- Or equivalent combination of work and education experience

Physical Demands:

- Regularly works in outdoor environments in all weather conditions.
- Must be able to stand and traverse/ascend/descend dirt trails and walking paths for up to 2 hours at a time.
- Must be able to lift a minimum of 40lb

To Apply: Send cover letter and resume to info@fontenelleforest.org. Applications due by November 23, 2018. Position start date will be on or after January 1, 2019.

Fontenelle Forest is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political ideology or status as a Vietnam-era or special disabled veteran in the administration of any of its employment related policies and practices.

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