



Naturalist Position

Position Title: Naturalist

Hourly rate of pay: \$18 - \$20 per hour

Position Hours: 35 hours per week

Position Overview: The Naturalist will work with the education staff of Beaver Creek Reserve to “connect people with nature.” The main focus of this position will be to develop, coordinate and implement the environmental education program at Beaver Creek Reserve. The Naturalist will lead interpretive, outdoor, and recreational, childhood through adult programs. In addition, the Naturalist will plan, organize and lead youth summer camps. The Naturalist will assist the education staff in caring for, training and handling live education animal ambassadors. This position is diverse, rewarding, and promises to change every day with every season--never a dull day.

Beaver Creek Background: Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) is an environmental center founded in 1947. The 400-acre reserve includes the Eau Claire County Youth Camp, Wise Nature Center, Citizen Science Center and the Hobbs Observatory. This unique combination of facilities provides a special atmosphere where people, through the ages, can discover, learn and appreciate the mysteries and miracles of nature. Beaver Creek Reserve is the bridge that connects what youth and adults learn in their everyday environment and adds real-life tangible experiences that support growth and understanding of the natural world.

Primary Duties:

- Develop and implement K-5 environmental programs. Work with local school districts and teachers to identify scholastic needs. Insure programing compliments teachers’ curriculum and meets Wisconsin State Academic Standards. Keep programs relevant. Evaluate appropriateness and benefit of programs to school groups throughout the Chippewa Valley.
- Oversee the development, coordination, promotion, scheduling, and assist in leading youth summer camps (2-12 years of age). Recruit volunteers and teachers. Arrange schedules and location, order supplies, insure communication with parents.
- Facilitate youth and adult interpretive programs, onsite, offsite and virtually.
- Lead, coordinate, promote, and schedule the Maple Sugaring Program with the assistance of education staff, school groups and volunteers.
- Produce and maintain Nature Center exhibits and displays.
- Manage the preparation, organization and volunteers of Beaver Creek’s Native Plant Sale, our largest one-day fundraiser.
- Develop a Nature Center Docents program by designing the recruitment, training and coordination of volunteers.
- Be responsible for the care and training of all education ambassador live animals (turtles, snakes, fish, frogs, toads, raptors). Recruit and train volunteers to assist with feeding and care of animals. Develop and present live animal programs.

Secondary Duties:

- Participate in training, scheduling, and administration of Naturalists interns.
- Oversee, train and schedule Astronomy Intern.
- Assist with and present for the Master Naturalist Program.
- Support partner Naturalist in all aspects of the Butterfly House, lab, gardens and Butterfly Festival.
- Maintain and insure requirements are reached for all educational permits.
- Assist with leading seasonal recreation programming, hiking, kayaking, snowshoeing, and skiing.

- Work with interns and volunteers in the upkeep of all of Beaver Creek's flower beds.
- Assist with the maintenance and seasonal change of BCR's Early Childhood Education programs.
- Develop new and maintain current interpretive trail signage.
- Write grants to fund new programs and to acquire new equipment or supplies.
- Attend and present at relevant classes, trainings, and conferences.
- Partake in staff meetings and participate in Beaver Creek Reserve functions and events.
- Contribute to BCR's newsletter, Current Happenings, blog and social media.
- Assist with special projects including land management, trail maintenance, general cleaning and other duties as assigned.

Required knowledge, skills and abilities:

- Bachelor's Degree in the natural sciences, environmental education, natural resources, education or other related field.
- Knowledge of current natural sciences, environmental, and conservation issues.
- Experience with nature interpretation and environmental education for children (preK-12) and adults.
- Experience implementing lesson plans.
- Demonstrated work experience with youth and adults.
- General knowledge and identification of local flora and fauna, using field guides and keys.
- Working knowledge of environmental education principles and practices.
- Need to be open to change and diversity.
- Ability to establish rapport and maintain effective working relationships with people having diverse interests, needs, ages, and backgrounds.
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to motivate and inspire others.
- Effective oral and written communication skills.
- Skilled in prioritizing and planning.
- Ability to self-start, take initiative and work independently. Must also be able to work in partnership with other naturalist and in collaboration with BCR staff and at times under direct supervision.

Preferred knowledge, skills and abilities:

- Animal Care and Raptor Care Certification.
- Teacher certification.
- Capable of operating PC computers and job-related software programs.
- Excellent problem solver.
- Familiarity with overseeing budgets.
- Knowledge of maple sugaring education.

Work Environment:

- During non-program times, work can be sedentary.
- Outdoor work can be very physical, in rough terrain and in all types of weather.
- Work a flexible schedule depending on program needs, including occasional required weekends and evenings.

Position Open Until: January 24, 2022

Interviews held: Early February

Start Date: March 1, 2022

Send a cover letter, resume and three references to:

Beaver Creek Reserve

Jeanette Kelly

S1 County Hwy K

Fall Creek, WI 54742

csc@beavercreekreserve.org