



TITLE: Outreach Naturalist

STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT: Seasonal

SALARY CLASSIFICATION: Hourly – Non-exempt, Wage Schedule C, Starting \$13.00

BENEFITS: Participation in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:

Under the direction of the Chief of Community Engagement and Community Engagement Managers, Outreach Naturalist develops, creates, and presents a variety of nature-based educational programs and recreational experiences primarily to urban and non-traditional audiences throughout Summit County who would not routinely visit Summit Metro Park programs or facilities because of identified barriers.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Directly reports to the Community Engagement Manager.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

Assist with supervising volunteers who may assist with programming efforts.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develops, creates, plans, and implements nature-based education programs in urban areas and other assigned locations.
- Presents nature-based education programs to non-traditional audiences in and outside of the park; representing Summit Metro Parks.
- Assist Community Engagement Manager(s) in updating programs based on Ohio Department of Education curriculum needs.
- Creates on-going age appropriate pre- and post-materials and evaluation tools coinciding with all programs.
- Maintain accurate records of programs delivered, attendance and evaluation data.
- Provides care and custodial responsibility of office areas, kitchen, displays, bio-facts, all assigned locations including storage and gardens, program materials and written literature that is distributed program participants.
- Attends educational seminars, conference, workshops and classes to improve understanding of the natural sciences and the current industry trends related to different communities of focus.
- Cross train with Naturalist staff in bi-weekly meetings and/or in-services.
- Participate in short- and long-term planning processes of Summit Metro Parks.
- Drive Summit Metro Parks vehicles to sites where programs are held.
- Assure compliance with safety and risk management programs of Summit Metro Parks.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree in Education, Environmental Education, Ecology, or related fields of studies.
- Broad, basic understanding of dendrology, botany, ecology, geology, entomology, ornithology, and other related fields typically acquired through formal or informal training.
- Knowledge and understanding of methods & principles of interpretation. Interpretive guide, planner or heritage interpreter certification not required but preferred.
- Ability to conduct both formal presentations and mobile programs to non-traditional groups.
- Knowledge of developmentally appropriate activities and ability to design age-appropriate education curricula and activities.
- Ability to interact with and manage children and adults in the outdoors; must possess visual and auditory abilities to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards related to visitor activity.
- In depth oral, written, and visual communication skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills: ability to work with a wide variety of personalities; ability to deal with the public and staff with tact, courtesy, and diplomacy. Customer service skills.
- Demonstrated creativity.
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team. Computer skills, including proficiency in Word, Excel, and other Microsoft Office applications.
- Flexible work hours, including evenings, weekends, and holidays, as required.
- Demonstrated emotional intelligence to include demonstrated self-awareness and accurate self-assessment, demonstrated sensitivity and empathy, demonstrated openness, reliability, and consistency.
- Proven track record of establishing and maintaining critical relationships internally and externally.

Licenses:

Possession of a valid State of Ohio drivers' license with clear driving record required.

Physical Requirements:

Essential Physical Demands and Working Environment:

- While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, walk, talk and hear. The employee is required to sit; stoop, kneel, crouch; smell and drive. The employee must lift and transport program materials up to 25 pounds.
- Employee will work a schedule with varied hours as assigned. Times are dependent on programming needs. Schedules are available at minimum 2 weeks in advance.

Conditions of Continued Employment:

- Must successfully complete a one-month probationary period