

Nature Center Summer Internship 2023

Sherwood Island State Park, Westport, CT

Timeframe: May 31-September 1 - **Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays**

Description of Internship

The Nature Center at Sherwood Island State Park provides visitors of all ages with experiences to enrich their understanding of coastal habitat. CT DEEP staffs the center with an Interpretive Guide five days a week from Wednesdays through Sundays, from 10 am to 4 pm, from late May through Labor Day weekend.

We are looking for *three* interns who want to learn all aspects of providing environmental education experiences at a coastal state park, including programming and daily hands-on operations.

The intern program is funded by the Friends of Sherwood Island State Park, a nonprofit organization. Interns report to the Friends' group Intern Advisor. Each intern will schedule 14 six-hour days once a week on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (42 possible dates). We are flexible, but want a strong commitment from you to be there when agreed.

Essential Daily Responsibilities

- Facilitate interpretive conversations with visitors at the touch tank, live animal exhibits, activity tables and the Center's Three Sisters Garden & Pollinator Garden.
 - Help create hands-on activities that foster inquiry about habitats & creatures at the park.
 - Monitor & maintain the aquatic tanks. Care for live animals residing in the Nature Center.
 - Lead or assist with daily nature walks, including seining.
 - Assist with monitoring the Purple Martin nesting gourds and other Citizen Science projects.
 - Assist with special programming, such as exchanges with Earthplace & Beardsley Zoo.
 - Water the gardens, as needed.
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Ideal Qualifications & Position Requirements

College or high school student with a focus on environmental studies or biological sciences.

Strong work ethic & reliability - 100% on-time attendance or arrange a substitute.

Enthusiasm for teaching people of all ages. Creativity.

Bilingual or good-excellent Spanish speaking ability is a big plus, as is teaching experience and specific skills, such as birdwatching, fishing or animal care.

Minimum 17 years old, parent/guardian permission if under 18 years old.

Provide your own transportation. We can provide assistance with trainfare, if needed.

Stipend

\$1200 for 14 days. Volunteer positions are available apart from this internship, no age minimum.

Application due by April 30

Internship information & application link: FriendsofSherwoodIsland.org

Please also send your resume to michelemsorensen@gmail.com.

Questions: call or text Michele at 203-247-1390.

See our Facebook page [Sherwood Island Nature Center](#).