

Nature Center Summer Internship 2024

Sherwood Island State Park, Westport, CT

Timeframe: May 29 to August 30 - Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays

Description of Internship Opportunity

The Nature Center at Sherwood Island State Park provides visitors of all ages with experiences to enrich their understanding of coastal habitat. The CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection staffs the Center with Interpretive Guides Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm, from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

We are looking for three Nature Center 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](#) (FOSI), a nonprofit organization. Interns report to the Friends' of Sherwood Island Intern Advisor. Each intern will schedule 13 six-hour days once a week, on a Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday from May 29th through August 30 (39 possible days). 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 & Pollinator Gardens.
 - Help create hands-on activities that inform visitors about habitats & creatures at the park.
 - Monitor and 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. Reporting nature sightings on iNaturalist and take part in other Citizen Science projects.
 - Develop and care for interpretive exhibits. Care for equipment used at the Nature Center.
 - Weed and water the Pollinator & 3 Sisters gardens, every day.
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Ideal Qualifications & Position Requirements

- College student or H.S. senior with a focus on environmental studies or natural sciences.
 - Strong work ethic & reliability - 100% on-time attendance or arrange your own substitute.
 - Enthusiasm for teaching people of all ages. Creativity.
 - Teaching experience and specific skills, such as aquarium management, tide pool exploration/ seining/fishing or knowledge of local flora, fauna and habitats (e.g., salt marsh).
 - Bilingual or good to excellent Spanish speaking ability is a big plus.
 - Minimum 17 years old, parent/guardian permission if under 18 years old.
 - Provide your own transportation.
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Stipend

\$1200 for 13 days. Volunteer positions are available apart from this internship, no age minimum.

Application due by May 10

Internship information and application: [Summer internship program](#)

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

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