

# Nature Center Summer Internship 2024

Sherwood Island State Park, Westport, CT

Timeframe: May 25-September 2 - **Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays**

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## 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' of Sherwood Island Intern Advisor. Each intern will schedule 16 six-hour days once a week on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday (34 possible dates). We are flexible, but want a strong commitment from you to be there when agreed.

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## 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 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. Report 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.
  - Assist with special programming, such as exchanges with Earthplace & Beardsley Zoo.
  - Weed and water the Pollinator & 3 Sisters gardens, every day.
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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 to 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.

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## Stipend

\$1600 for 16 days. Volunteer positions are available apart from this internship, no age minimum.

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## Application due by May 10

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

Please also send your resume to [michelemsorensen@gmail.com](mailto:michelemsorensen@gmail.com).

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