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We save rivers.

Environmental Educator

Job Summary:

The Conservation Foundation is seeking an Environmental Educator to lead outdoor education and recreation programs at schools and natural areas throughout the TCF service area, primarily within Kane and DuPage Counties as well as at the McDonald Farm in Naperville, Illinois. Programs are offered to a variety of ages and audiences with a focus on elementary age children. The ideal candidate will demonstrate a genuine passion for outdoor education and enthusiasm for working with young people. Candidate must have knowledge or experience pertaining to wildlife, natural history, and local flora and fauna. Preference will be given to a candidate fluent in Spanish.

Reports to: Amy Phillips, Youth Programs Manager

Schedule + Job Location: Part-time, year-round with flexible but highly variable hours

Duties + Responsibilities:

- Lead Mighty Acorns™ classroom activities and field sessions through facilitation of exploratory hikes, learning games and investigations, and hands-on stewardship activities, such as planting, cutting back invasive plants and seed collecting. These programs take place during school hours and after school at various school locations in Kane, DuPage and LaSalle Counties.
- Assist or lead occasional field trips, scouting programs, after school Club Nature programs, Family Adventures and at least one week of half-day Summer Camp at the McDonald Farm in Naperville. Program topics focus on STEM Concepts, Environmentalism, Nature Arts, Food & Agriculture, and Health.
- Use behavior management techniques to redirect disruptive behavior when appropriate.
- Help maintain, organize, and inventory program materials at the McDonald Farm.
- Participate in occasional TCF staff meetings and events.

Education + Experience: Bachelor's degree in environmental education, natural sciences, or related field with a minimum 2 years' experience and skills in interpretation or education



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Qualifications:

- Must love working outdoors in all types of weather conditions and be able to tolerate biting and stinging insects.
- Stewardship activities and hikes require the use of tools, scientific equipment, and hiking through various habitats.
- Schedule and number of hours will vary depending on the season and programs booked, so must have a flexible schedule and be available to work during the school day and early afternoons.
- Occasionally, programs occur on weekends and candidates must be willing to work at least one week of summer camp.
- Must have a valid Illinois Driver's license and be or become CPR certified upon hiring.
- Love nature and have a genuine passion for our mission.

Timeline: Application deadline - by **February 15**
Estimated start date - March 2022

Starting Pay: \$17/hour

The Conservation Foundation is committed to creating a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment where everyone is valued and belongs. We seek to be an organization where each individual thrives and where unique views, beliefs and perspectives are respected and celebrated.

The Conservation Foundation is an equal opportunity employer. All aspects of employment including the decision to hire, promote, discipline, or discharge, will be based on merit, competence, performance, and business needs. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, age, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, pregnancy, genetic information, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other status protected under federal, state, or local law.

Please direct questions and resume to
Amy Phillips, Youth Programs Manager
aphillips@theconservationfoundation.org



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