

Environmental Stewardship Intern

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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DESCRIPTION

Explore and help preserve the natural, local ecology of Delaware through restoration field work. Under the leadership of our Field Biologists and Conservation Technicians, you will serve as part of a team restoring natural habitats in Delaware's State Parks, specifically through manual and chemical removal of invasive plants. Serve alongside other interns with like interests and backgrounds. This position is fully outdoors in the fields, forests, meadows, beaches, and the other landscapes that make up our beautiful parks. Extensive training includes Piedmont native and invasive plant identification, forest ecology, and practical control mechanism - both manual and chemical.

Interns are crucial to our management plans. Teams meet at central location and are provided transportation to work site, if required.

LOCATIONS

TEAM #1

Wilmington
White Clay Creek
Brandywine Creek
Bellevue State Park
Alapocas Run
Auburn Heights Preserve

TEAM #2

Cape Henlopen
Delaware Seashore
Fenwick Island
Holts Landing
Killens Pond
Holts Landing

TERM

- Summer – 12 weeks
 - Full-time 30-35 hours per week

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Follow a land management plan to maintain the park's meadows and shoreline
- Assist with native and invasive plant survey and identification
- Conduct invasive control by both chemical application and mechanical removal of invasive plants
- Assist Conservation Technicians with grounds work throughout the park
- Other duties as assigned

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Must be able to work flexible hours, including some weekends
- Valid driver's license
- Strong work ethic
- Ability to perform hard physical outdoor work in various conditions
- Willingness to operate power tools and use herbicide

- Basic knowledge of local flora and fauna
- Comfortable in outdoor field setting (forest, fields, along creeks)
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to work alone with little direct supervision

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the Team Leader, followed by the Environmental Stewardship Program Natural Resource Planner or the Environmental Stewardship Program Manager.

BENEFITS

- **Training:** A hallmark of the program, interns receive training from the field experts they will be working with. In addition to this formal and informal training to successfully conduct their internship assignment, interns will have the opportunity to build associated skills and share real-time experience with park staff and colleagues. Training will be made available to the interns to further their personal and professional development.
- **Housing:** Limited co-ed housing is available, at no fee, for interns providing full-time hours (30 or more per week). If selected for housing, an intern will share a house, duplex or dorm facility with other interns.
- **Activities:** Interns will have the opportunity not only to visit ALL Delaware State Parks at no fee, but also participate in many of the tours, programs, and associated events for free. Delaware State Parks span the length of the state and whether it be canoeing at Trap Pond State Park, surfing at Delaware Seashore State Park, attending a concert at Bellevue State Park, or touring the living history facility at Fort Delaware, there is certainly something for everyone.
- **Stipend Available:** Interns are not employees of the State of Delaware- they are considered volunteers and are not paid for their service. Interns may elect to receive a stipend to help cover expenses incurred during their volunteer intern service. The stipend is a fixed amount of \$100 per week for service of 30 or more hours per week or \$50.00 per week for service of between 20 – 29 hours/ week paid biweekly as a direct deposit into the Intern’s bank account.
 - The stipend is not a wage, but does count toward the total income on which the intern’s tax obligation is based. Interns electing to receive the stipend will complete IRS Form W-9 Request for Tax-Payer Identification as self-employed and will receive a Form 1099 at the end of the year that reports the amount of income from the stipend. No taxes are withheld from the stipend.

All Delaware State Parks Interns are required to undergo and successfully complete a background check performed by the Division.

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The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce