



Osprey Wilds

Environmental Learning Center

Environmental Education Leadership Fellow (2-Year Fellowship)

Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit residential education center near Sandstone, MN that provides outdoor educational opportunities to a diverse audience in an intimate setting. Our Leadership Program is committed to developing the talents of emerging leaders in environmental education through on-the-job experience, mentorship, on-site training seminars, and professional development at conferences and off-site training. Spend your first year learning the ins-and-outs of residential environmental education through hands-on experiences and through our extensive professional development program. During your second year, develop your leadership skills as a Mentor Educator for our team of instructors and receive tailored training in a self-selected focus area. We hope you join our dedicated and passionate education team in our effort to serve Minnesotans during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond!

Qualifications:

- BA or BS in a related field, or equivalent work experience/ training
- 21 years of age or older at the time of employment
- Ability to commit to a 2-year fellowship, from August 2022- August 2024, and live on site in communal housing
- Commitment to pursuing a career in environmental education
- Dedication to working with learners of all ages, particularly elementary and middle school students
- Interest and experience in outdoor activities including, but not limited to: camping, canoeing, backpacking, climbing, hiking, etc.
- Experience with, and enthusiasm for, summer youth camps and community programming
- Experience in working with or teaching members of underserved communities
- Interest and enthusiasm for working with and caring for our animal ambassadors
- Must be open-minded, self-directed, and enthusiastic--excited to learn and try new things!
- Ability to lift heavy equipment, such as a canoe, hike long distances, and work outside in all weather conditions
- Ability to lead and participate in our climbing wall and high ropes course (max height: 40 ft.)
- Conversational speaking ability in: Spanish, Somali, or Hmong is a plus!
- Committed to being a leader/mentor to students and colleagues--previous leadership experience is a plus!
- Valid First-aid/CPR/AED certification is a plus!

Year 1 Responsibilities:

- Teach ecology, wildlife, adventure, and cultural classes to large and small groups of all ages, including evening and weekend programming, both virtually and on-site where appropriate.
- Plan and lead Summer Camp programming and free-time activities, whether virtual or onsite

- Overnight counseling may be required for overnight camps and college groups.
- Serve as the primary Center representative and host to visiting conference and retreat groups. This includes being on-call for overnight visitors
- Attend weekly staff meetings and regular training throughout the year
- Provide basic husbandry for our animal ambassadors, including raptors, corvids, mammals, fish, invertebrates, and herps. This includes meal preparation requiring the cutting up and skinning of prey animals.
- Complete other self-directed projects, or projects/tasks as assigned

Year 2 Responsibilities:

- Continue with Year 1 Responsibilities
- Mentor new educators in teaching, outdoor adventure, and animal husbandry skills
- Complete Specific Focus area tasks:

Events and Programming Lead (1 Position Available):

- Serve as Assistant Camp Director for youth summer camps
- Coordinate special programming such as Homeschool Camp, Winter Family Camp, Maple Syrup Day, and other community events
- Learn to develop, pilot, and assess inquiry-based curricula
- Lead education staff on curriculum development projects
- Attend an overnight, off-site conference on Environmental Education or other comparable training/ conference experience
- Work with the Education Director on area specific projects

Adventure Lead (1 Position Available):

- Assist on group trainings related to adventure equipment, adventure classes, basic first aid, emergency procedures and radio protocol
- Maintain all adventure equipment according to industry standards
- Maintain accurate inventories for all adventure equipment
- Assist with the assessment and implementation of risk management protocols
- Lead off-site and Community College adventure programming such as multi-day canoe trips, camping, advanced orienteering, and outdoor recreation
- Obtain certification in Challenge Course operation or other comparable training/ conference experience
- Work with the Fellowship Coordinator on area specific projects

Wildlife Lead (1 Position Available):

- Assist in overseeing daily husbandry and barn operations
- Be primary caretaker of 1 - 2 animals
- Continue to learn and improve your personal animal training techniques
- Assist in training new education staff on wildlife programming

- Assist with animal assessments and maintenance projects.
- Be a lead educator for wildlife outreach programming
- Learn and assist in documentation required for maintaining our wildlife program
- Attend a week-long training at the U of M Raptor Center or other comparable training/conference experience.
- Work with the Wildlife Coordinator on area specific projects

Benefits:

- Work outside in a beautiful setting: 780 acres with coniferous and mixed hardwood forest, creek, prairie, and wetland areas, as well as a lake with a beach adjacent to the staff house.
- 2 years of training in pedagogy, curriculum development, and environmental education theory
- National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide training
- One-on-one mentorship by professionals in the field
- Broad natural history and animal husbandry training
- Hundreds of hours of teaching experience with groups of diverse ages and backgrounds
- Private room in on-site Staff House, and meals during the work week/when groups are present
- Eight days off each month, plus 10 additional days of paid sick leave/PTO
- YEAR 1 COMPENSATION: \$400/month stipend, room & board, + 8 Paid Graduate Credits through Hamline University towards a masters degree in Natural Science and Environmental Education (\$3,000 value)
- YEAR 2 COMPENSATION: \$540/month stipend, room & board, + Paid off-site training/conference attendance (focus-area specific, see above)

Position Dates:

This fellowship begins August 22, 2022, and ends on August 9, 2024

There are 3 positions available. Applications will be accepted until February 14th, 2022 and further applications will be considered until positions are filled.

To apply, please send your cover letter, resume, three references to:

Ashley Bozman, Fellowship Coordinator, Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center
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