

Job Description
Student Employment Offices
College of Saint Benedict
Saint John's University

Job Title: Student Naturalist Aide

Department/Agency: Saint John's Outdoor University

Wage: Level 1

Categories: Community Service

Length of Position: Academic Year Part-time (20-30 hours per semester) - can be combined with other student jobs.

Function/Description of the Position: This is a special job with limited hours that is designed to give education, biology, environmental studies and other interested students a chance for some practical teaching experience.

The position assists Outdoor University staff in delivering outdoor environmental education programs. The Environmental Teaching Aides will assist the trained naturalist in hands-on activities for preK-12 students participating in an Outdoor University field trip. More than 8,000 students visit the wetlands, prairie, and woods of Saint John's Abbey Arboretum annually. This position will offer the employee valuable experiential teaching experience, ecology training, and creative thinking opportunities. Ultimately, the position will instill a sense of wonder and respect for the natural world to share with others.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Assist lead naturalist with hands-on environmental activities
- Show enthusiasm and respect for the natural world
- Encourage students to participate and learn
- Aide in keeping group together and focused

Minimum Qualifications to perform the duties of the position:

- *Must have an open schedule during the day (see Work Schedule below)*
- Must like working with children (Education and Biology majors especially welcome)
- Strong verbal communication skills needed. Basic computer experience.
- Must be reliable, trustworthy, able to work well with others including children and teachers
- Should be in generally good health and be capable of periods of prolonged walking and exposure to the outdoors
- Should appreciate and have a strong desire to learn more about the natural environment. However, previous environmental education experience or biology training is not required.
- A criminal background check is required for this position and the offer of employment will be contingent upon receipt of a successful background check.

Work Schedule:

20-30 hours per semester. Preference given to those available for at least 2-3 hours (in a row) between 8 am and 3 pm 2-3 times per week. Note: these hours can be combined with another student job.

Contact Person:

Sarah Gainey, Assistant Director, Saint John's Outdoor University

Phone: 363-3133 E-mail: sgainey@csbsju.edu