

MACON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Job Description

Job Title: Part-Time Animal Care Naturalist
Department: Program Services
Reports To: Nature Center Manager
Position Status: Non-exempt

Summary:

Provides routine care and maintenance for the education animals at Rock Springs Nature Center, including feeding, enclosure cleaning and upkeep, providing enrichment, and checking welfare. Develops and presents educational programs for youth and adults. Greets visitors and provides assistance and information to the public at conservation district sites.

Qualifications:

Associate's degree or equivalent from a two year college or technical school; or two years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience in a field of study that includes biology, forestry, zoology, botany, or environmental education. Must have a valid Illinois driver's license, first aid and CPR certification.

Essential Functions:

1. Provides care for a variety of reptiles and amphibians through daily husbandry activities, including observations, feedings, and enrichment.
2. Maintains enclosures through daily maintenance, cleaning, and upkeep. Performs water and substrate changes on a routine schedule.
3. Purchases, prepares, and delivers food for all animals.
4. Observes, records, and reports any issues concerning animal health and behavior.
5. Creates and facilitates enrichment items or activities.
6. Inventories and organizes animal care supplies and equipment.
7. Suggests general animal care improvements as necessary.
8. Conducts programs on hiking trails, in the nature center, historic sites, and at other facilities; interpreting, explaining and answering questions concerning ecology, habitat, flora, fauna, and human interaction with the environment.

Essential Functions (continued)

9. Researches and develops materials for use in interpretive programs, organizes presentation materials to enhance the programs.
10. Greets visitors and provides general and specific information over the phone or in person.
11. Assists with planning and leads activities for special events.
12. Assists with room and pavilion preparations, set up and take down as needed.
13. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties described above.

Marginal Functions:

1. Supervises volunteers who help with programs.
2. Must be capable of working independently.

Psychological Considerations:

1. Must be capable of working with people of all ages.
2. Must be able work with wildlife including reptiles, amphibians, and insects.

Physiological Considerations:

1. Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds.
2. Ability to stand, walk, kneel, and sit.
3. Physical dexterity and fine motor skills to operate computer and audiovisual equipment.

Environmental Considerations:

1. Exposed to all forms of weather conditions.
2. Indoor conditions include those typical of an office.

Cognitive Considerations:

1. Must be able to solve practical problems.
2. Must be able to understand written and verbal instructions and relate them to other staff, volunteers and public.

3. Must use good safety awareness and judgment.

4. May be required to respond to emergencies.

The above is intended to describe the general content of and requirements for the performance of this job. It is not to be construed as an exhaustive statement of duties, responsibilities or requirements.