

**Service Position Title:** Conservation Steward, AmeriCorps Position Full-time

**Immediate Supervisor** Ben Nanny, Ijams Nature Center Grounds Manager  
Jake Hudson, Ijams River Boat Captain

### **Service Position Summary**

Ijams Nature Center is committed to setting an example of environmental stewardship in our community. We accomplish this by maintaining a thriving greenspace for residents and visitors, as well as providing vital litter cleanup along the Tennessee River.

#### At Ijams Nature Center:

- The Conservation Steward will assist with the maintenance, care, and repair of 12+ miles of hiking trails, visitor service areas, play areas, gardens, and planted areas throughout the 300-acre park.
- In addition to ongoing maintenance, the Conservation Steward will be responsible for working with the Volunteer Coordinator to organize workdays for these gardens and supervise the work of these volunteers, including scout groups and other youth organizations.
- The Conservation Steward will work with the Grounds Manager to develop and implement an invasive species management plan for the Park.
- As part of Ijams Nature Center's annual River Rescue clean-up, the Conservation Steward will serve as a zone captain at one of 40 clean-up sites along the Tennessee River. In this capacity the position will supervise 25 volunteers for litter pick-up, tree plantings, and/or other shoreline conservation efforts.
- The Conservation Steward will serve an important role as a front-line interpreter, educating visitors about conservation efforts at Ijams Nature Center and interpreting the cultural and natural resources of Ijams Nature Center

#### On the Tennessee River:

- The Conservation Steward will assist Ijams Nature Center's river boat captain to fulfill the duties related to the clean-up contract with City of Knoxville throughout the No Trash Zone and local waterways.
- The Conservation Steward will assist with cleaning up waterways, removing litter, and separating recyclable materials from the waste collected.

The preferred applicant will hold a degree in Wildlife Biology, Forestry, Wildland Recreation, Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, or a related field or have work experience in a similar field.

### **Essential Functions of Position**

1. Maintain and repair trails, visitor service areas, interpretive areas, gardens, and other planted areas throughout the park
2. Assist with maintaining the City of Knoxville's No Trash Zone of the Tennessee River
3. Coordinate invasive species removal efforts
4. Train and manage volunteers (groups and individuals) to assist with landscaping needs
5. Assist with scout projects (trail improvement and park enhancements) as needed