



CAC AmeriCorps

Position Description

Conservation Steward



Dates of Service: August 5th, 2019 – June 26th, 2020

Partner: Ijams Nature Center

Location of Service: Ijams Nature Center
2915 Island Home Ave Knoxville, TN 37920

Supervisor: Ben Nanny and Jake Hudson

About CAC AmeriCorps:

Established in 1994, CAC AmeriCorps is a national service program that combines elements of traditional conservation practice with community action that informs our work and places it in the broader context of the region. CAC AmeriCorps members serve to improve public lands, streams and greenways, educate the public, meet immediate human needs, eliminate barriers to employment, contribute to healthier lifestyles, and build volunteer capacity to enhance the ability of our partners to get things done. We are committed to human and environmental justice in our communities through enduring acts of service.

Position Summary:

The CAC AmeriCorps member serving as the Conservation Steward with Ijams Nature Center will be involved in the general upkeep and improvement at Ijams Nature Center in South Knoxville. Throughout the year, the member will engage in a variety of activities keeping Ijams a safe and visually pleasing area for visitors. The member should be flexible and ready to take on something new each day as new needs can prioritize themselves over older projects. Close attention to safety is absolutely necessary in this position, and the member should be comfortable with, or willing to learn, how to use power equipment such as leaf blowers and weed eaters, as well as hammers, saws, etc.

This position will provide the member with the opportunity to see, and be a part of, the day-to-day operations of an urban nature center. The member will gain experience working with a diverse group of individuals to create and maintain safe and fun urban wilderness. Through this, the member will become proficient in using tools, identifying public safety risks, the ability to identify, treat, and remove invasive plant species, and trail maintenance.

Minimum Qualifications:

Education

- High School Diploma

Position Requirements:

- Ability to navigate uneven terrain and work in challenging weather conditions.
- Ability to follow instructions.
- Ability and willingness to learn.
- Ability to lift 30 lbs.
- Strong work ethic.
- Ability and willingness to follow all safety protocols.

Member Benefits Include:

- A modest living allowance of \$14,000, or, \$595.74 bi-weekly (pre-tax), paid over 47 weeks.
- Education Award of \$6,095 that can be applied to student loans and/or future education expenses.
- Health insurance is available for members who are not already covered independently or by a parent.
- Worker's Compensation
- Child Care Reimbursement
- May be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In-house SNAP benefits specialist available to provide assistance in determining eligibility.
- May be eligible for utility bill assistance. In house specialists available to provide assistance with determining eligibility.
- Staff assistance with identifying housing. Housing, inclusive of utilities, is generally between \$300-\$450 in a share house/apartment scenario.
- Professional development and networking opportunities.

Equity and Inclusion:

The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will take action to ensure that employees are treated equally without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap, cultural or religious convictions. CAC AmeriCorps provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

