

## Venture Out!

### Nature Day Camp Junior Counselor

The Chippewa Nature Center, a non-profit educational organization, has openings for Junior Counselors for the 2012 season! The Center's 1,200-acre property includes woodlands, fields, ponds, wetlands, and rivers. Facilities consist of a Visitor Center with Ecosystem Gallery, classrooms and Nature Center Store; a Historic Farm complex (schoolhouse, cabin, sugarhouse); a Nature Preschool Building, a Nature Study Building (day camp headquarters), an Arboretum, and 14 miles of nature trails.

Nature Day Camp is designed to connect campers to nature through fun, educational experiences. The program involves a variety of activities in the areas of field ecology, historic farm life, sensory awareness, wildlife studies, and nature crafts. Canoeing, kayaking, and overnight camping trips are also included for some programs. Campers attend programs from 9:30am until 3:30 pm each day.

#### Major Responsibilities

Junior counselors assist with teaching and supervising day campers from preschool through ninth grade, including children with special needs. Over the course of the summer, junior counselors will assume increased responsibility for the planning and implementation of natural and cultural history programming for campers. Junior counselors regularly attend canoe and kayak trips as well as overnight camp outs. They are also responsible for supervising volunteer middle school and high school Counselors in Training (CIT).

#### Requirements

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older by June 11, 2012. Preference will be given to students who have experience working with children in a formal setting (camp, afterschool programs, scouts, sports, etc.). Natural science knowledge, experience teaching in an outdoor setting, and camping skills are helpful. First-aid training and CPR certification are required\*. Life Guard certification is desirable. We are looking for enthusiastic junior counselors who are self-motivated, enjoy working with children, and love being outside!

\*Can be arranged after hire.

#### Employment Dates & Benefits

Paid staff training: June 4-8 and July 2-3, from 8am to 5pm. (Accommodations will be made for those with academic commitments during the June 4-8 training.) Camp sessions are June 11 through August 10 with no camp July 4-6. The weekly stipend is \$296 per week with additional stipends for overnights. Staff receive a 20% discount in the Nature Center Store. Uniform shirts are provided.

### Application deadline is February 17, 2012.

Interviews will be held February 25 at the Chippewa Nature Center.

#### Send cover letter and attached application or resume to:

Jenn Kirts, Nature Day Camp Director  
Chippewa Nature Center  
400 S. Badour Rd.  
Midland, MI 48640  
989-631-0830, 989-631-7070 (fax)  
jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org  
[www.chippewanaturecenter.org](http://www.chippewanaturecenter.org)



# 2012 Junior Counselor Application

Please feel free to attach additional sheets if you need more room to write or would like to include additional information.

## Personal information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street City State Zip

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a cell phone? Yes No

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Will you be 18 by June 11, 2012? Yes No

## Education

Where did/do you attend high school? \_\_\_\_\_

What classes have you taken that relate to this position? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently attend college? Yes No If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

What classes have you taken that relate to this position? \_\_\_\_\_

## Interests and experience

What is your experience working with children (volunteer or paid)? \_\_\_\_\_

Explain any contact you have had with children or peers with special needs. \_\_\_\_\_

What experience do you have with nature or outdoor skills? What types of outdoor activities do you enjoy? \_\_\_\_\_

What hobbies or activities, including clubs & sports, do you pursue? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been a CIT at Nature Day Camp before? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what year(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Please share any other information you would like us to know: \_\_\_\_\_

Return application with cover letter to:  
Jenn Kirts, Day Camp Director  
Chippewa Nature Center  
400 S. Badour Road  
Midland, MI, 48640