



Position Available:

Nature Day Camp

Junior Counselor

Status: Full time, Seasonal

Application Deadline: February 15, 2024

Inspire children to build a lifelong, meaningful relationship with the natural world as you help them to catch frogs at the pond, create a miniature homestead village in the woods or learn how to paddle on a river.

Job Summary: Join a team of creative, energetic professionals who work together to connect children with nature through educational, recreational and cultural experiences. Chippewa Nature Center is in search of Junior Camp Counselors with a passion for making a difference in the lives of children by providing powerful, dynamic programs in the outdoors. Junior Counselors will assist with teaching and supervising day campers from preschool to 9th grade, including children with special needs. They will help to support 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 9:30 am until 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. Over the course of the summer, Junior Counselors will assume increased responsibility for the planning and implementation of camp programming.

Objective: To assist the Counselors to develop and implement programming of predetermined camps to support and strengthen campers' relationships with the natural world.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Supervise campers, ensuring their safety and well-being
2. Help the teaching team plan and teach daily lessons following the goals and objectives for each program
3. Follow and enforce all camp policies, rules and regulations
4. Provide first aid to campers according to camp policy
5. Communicate regularly with Counselors and the Leadership Team
6. Help organize and direct parents and campers on the first day of camp
7. Provide a Monday orientation for middle and high school volunteers [Counselors-in-Training (CITs)]; organize and supervise CITs during lunchtime activities, including recycling and games
8. Participate in pre-camp and on-going trainings
9. Other duties as assigned by the Camp Director or Assistant Director

Required Qualifications:

- Experience working with children in a formal setting (camp, after school programs, scouts, sports, etc.)
- Experience and desire to work in an outdoor setting
- First aid and CPR certifications (or ability to become certified)

- High school diploma or GED
- Physically able to lift 50 pounds
- Ability to work varied hours, including some evenings

Preferred Qualifications:

- Natural science knowledge
- Experience teaching in an outdoor setting
- Knowledge of local natural resources (ecology, identification of birds, plants, etc.)
- Camping, canoeing and kayaking skills

Schedule: Paid staff training: May 28 -June 4 and July 1-3. Camp sessions run June 5 through August 9 with no camp July 4-5.

Salary & Benefits: Starting salary is \$560 per week (\$14/hr.) with additional stipends for overnight camps (\$60/night in the field), staff uniform, CNC membership, 20% discount in Nature Center Store, 10% discount on program fees.

Status: Full time, seasonal

Application Procedure: Send cover letter and resume to Steve Frisbee, Camp Director at sfrisbee@chippewanaturecenter.org or 400 S Badour Road, Midland, MI 48640

Application Deadline: February 15, 2024 (**Group interview will be held by invitation February 24, 2024, 9 am-4 pm**)

Overview: CNC is a nonprofit, environmental education organization. Its mission is *to connect all people to nature through educational, recreational and cultural experiences*. The 1,500-acre property includes woodlands, fields, ponds and rivers. CNC's facilities consist of a Visitor Center with Ecosystem Gallery, classrooms and Nature Center store; an 1870s Homestead Farm complex; Nature Preschool; an arboretum and 19+ miles of nature trails. See www.chippewanaturecenter.org for more information.

Equal Opportunity Employment: CNC is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against employees or job applicants on the basis of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, height, weight, handicap or disability, veteran status or any other status or condition protected by applicable state or federal laws.

2024 Junior Counselor Application

You are required to submit a cover letter in addition to this application. You may choose to submit a resume in place of this 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 5, 2024? 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 Teen Volunteer at Nature Day Camp before? _____ If yes, what year(s)? _____

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

Return application, resume and cover letter to: Steve Frisbee, Camp Director, at
sfrisbee@chippewanaturecenter.org or Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S Badour Rd, Midland, MI 48640