

Huron Pines

Huron Pines AmeriCorps Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Environmental Education Specialist
PRIMARY SERVICE LOCATION: Gaylord, Michigan
RESPONSIBLE TO: Emily Vogelgesang, Environmental Education Coordinator

Huron Pines is a nonprofit organization focused on the protection, restoration and conservation of Michigan's natural resources. By conserving the forests, lakes and streams of Northeast Michigan, we protect the Great Lakes and improve economic, environmental, educational and recreational opportunities in communities throughout our region. We understand that the connections between land, water and people are what make this region special. At the core of all of our work is a goal to instill a conservation ethic in the people and places we serve to build vibrant, sustainable communities rich with protected natural resources.

The Huron Pines environmental education program works across ages, backgrounds and geographies to build Great Lakes champions and stewards by supporting them as they move to action on the challenges and opportunities facing the region's resources. Huron Pines is offering an exciting opportunity for a Huron Pines AmeriCorps member who will enhance the Huron Pines environmental education program through engagement with K-12 students, teachers and community partners to implement place-based stewardship education (PBSE).

We are seeking someone to develop and implement student learning and stewardship opportunities, support teachers through coordinated planning and professional development and connect stewardship efforts to the larger community. This opportunity balances a variety of tasks from classroom instruction to conducting field surveys and implementing on-the-ground stewardship projects with students to evaluation and long-term planning of environmental education efforts with school districts. We are looking for someone who has experience with educating in a variety of situations, possesses strong communication and planning skills, and brings a creative approach to new projects.

SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF SERVICE: This position requires a 10-month commitment. The Environmental Education Specialist will implement PBSE in the classroom and field for students to engage in the stewardship of a local resource. By providing both educational and technical guidance to teachers, students and community partners, the Specialist will support new and ongoing efforts to both protect natural resources and enhance student learning. They will also support the long-term sustainability of K-12 stewardship projects by working directly with teachers to develop multi-year plans and by connecting with local community partners to support those plans. As needed, the Specialist will support adult learning opportunities that may connect student activities to the wider community or that build knowledge and skills required for adults to take an individual stewardship action. Preferred experience is noted below; on-site training will be provided. Service locations include the Huron Pines office, schools, field sites, public spaces and other areas across the northeast lower peninsula as needed. This position does require travel and field-based activities that may include uneven terrain and needing to lift up to 20 pounds.

POSITION DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Implement and Support K-12 PBSE Student Projects/Programs (60%)

- Conduct classroom instruction, including presentations and hands-on experiential elements, as it relates student stewardship activities in at least 2 school districts
- Support on-the-ground field activities that are a part of students' stewardship work by providing logistic and planning support as well as expertise in the field
- Facilitate and coordinate at least 2 student communication efforts about stewardship projects to the wider community through avenues such as presentations, video, signs, etc.
- Analyze evaluation data from one school district on students' experiences in implementing stewardship projects

Coordinate with Teachers and Community Partners to Implement PBSE (30%)

- Facilitate planning meetings with at least 2 school/community partner teams
- Support the planning and facilitation of at least 1 professional development on topics relevant to on-going student stewardship projects (including logistics, developing agendas, gathering/developing guidance materials)
- Develop support materials that will enhance planning efforts and teachers' instruction around natural resources

Adult Education and Engagement (10%)

- Identify opportunities to connect adult learning with student stewardship efforts and connect as appropriate
- As needed, plan, promote and implement adult learning or engagement events in the region

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- Prepare and submit 2-week schedules, timesheets and mileage reimbursement forms
- Conduct at least 2 presentations to community groups about Huron Pines AmeriCorps
- Engage at least 30 volunteers in conservation activities
- Submit 4 "Great Stories"
- Provide regular project updates and photos for the website
- Represent yourself as a Huron Pines AmeriCorps member at all times
- Attend required trainings provided by the AmeriCorps Coordinator

QUALIFICATIONS:

- ✓ Bachelor's Degree
- ✓ Computer efficiency (typing, email, word processing, excel)
- ✓ Ability to pass a background check*
- ✓ U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien
- ✓ Commitment to conserving the forests, lakes and streams of Northeast Michigan



Preferred Qualifications

- ✓ Experience with environmental education, interpretation, or teaching in a formal or non-formal setting
- ✓ Experience leading field investigations (ex. stream monitoring, invasive species inventory)
- ✓ Excellent verbal and written communication
- ✓ Ability to both work independently and on a team
- ✓ Knowledge of forestry, water infrastructure and/or invasive species

On occasion, service will be required at an off-site location. Use of a personal vehicle may be required to perform duties (mileage will be reimbursed). This is a 40 hour per week position and runs from January 14 to November 15, 2019. Benefits include \$13,732 living stipend, health insurance, \$5,730 education award and student loan deferment.

Applications and directions are available at www.huronpines.org/amicorps and will be accepted until September 28, 2018.

Reasonable accommodations: If you need to make a request for a reasonable accommodation, due to a disability, such as obtain materials in a format that works for you or to fully participate in the application process, please contact Sarah Topp, AmeriCorps Coordinator at (989) 448-2293 x30 or sarah@huronpines.org.

*Registered sex offenders are not eligible for AmeriCorps positions.