

Huron Pines AmeriCorps

Developing leaders in conservation since 2007



KEWEENAW ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIP Huron Pines AmeriCorps Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Education and Stewardship Specialist
PRIMARY SERVICE LOCATION: Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative & Center for Science & Environmental Outreach Office, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI
RESPONSIBLE TO: Director, Michigan Tech Center for Science & Environmental Outreach

This is a unique position in that three organizations will share the skills and contributions of this AmeriCorps member in support of environmental education and land & water stewardship. The three partner organizations are: Center for Science & Environmental Outreach (CSEO) located on Michigan Tech's campus (<https://blogs.mtu.edu/cseo/>); Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative, one of Michigan nine Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative hubs (<http://lakesuperiorstewardship.org/>) and the Keweenaw Land Trust (<http://keweenawlandtrust.org/>). The CSEO provides a wide range of environmental programming. The Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative (LSSI) supports youth-led Great Lakes-focused efforts through place-based stewardship education (PBSE) with schools and community partners. The Keweenaw Land Trust (KLT) is a land and water conservation organization serving the western UP. KLT has protected 4020 acres in conservation easements and 3000 acres owned in 19 nature areas--all open to public low-impact use since its inception in 1996. These lands require stewardship and provide a great context for public outreach and education.

The above three organizations in partnership with the Huron Pines AmeriCorps program, offer an exciting mix of opportunities to support environmental educational, enhance teacher learning, and a wide variety of on-the-ground stewardship activities. We seek a highly motivated, responsible individual who is eager to learn how to collaborate with educators, K-12 students and community partners to bring high quality environmental education and stewardship projects to the rural western Upper Peninsula.

SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF SERVICE: The Education and Stewardship Specialist is responsible for supporting new and existing environmental educational programming and stewardship service projects in the greater Keweenaw Area of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The Education and Stewardship Specialist will plan and implement environmental stewardship projects, provide professional development opportunities for teachers, lead volunteer stewardship days. Stewardship efforts may include habitat restoration; invasive species management; and native plant propagation. The AmeriCorps Member must be flexible and able to adapt to the needs of the 3 organizations and the varied targeted audiences and volunteers.

Some experience working with students and knowledge of Great Lakes natural history is preferred but not required; onsite training will be provided. Service locations include public buildings, schools, and field sites. This position requires a 5 month commitment and is part of the Huron Pines AmeriCorps program. The program offers opportunities to develop creative education approaches to better conserve natural resources. This position does require some travel and field based activities requiring physical labor. Applicants should be prepared to, on occasion, traverse and carry supplies and equipment (10-35lbs) over uneven ground.

POSITION DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Place-Based Stewardship Education

- Coordinate with educators, students, school administrators, and community partners to explore and develop place-based stewardship education projects, with an emphasis on watershed projects
- Support existing school PBSE projects to provide a positive learning experience for students and service connections for community partners

- Develop and facilitate relevant field and school visits for students, teachers, and community members that support partnership efforts
- Assist with teacher workshops on watershed health, stream monitoring, and Virtual Reality fieldwork
- Target and enhance professional development opportunities for educators

Community Outreach

- Design handouts, brochures, flyers, videos, etc. to disseminate in print and electronically
- Utilize relevant online resources and social media
- Promote stewardship efforts with print, TV, radio, and electronic press
- Plan and participate in community outreach events that connect to the partners' efforts
- Write articles for newspaper and partners email lists and newsletters

Stewardship

- Organize and run volunteer stewardship days
- Organize and run a one week teen stewardship camp
- Design and initiate a native plant shoreline restoration project and management plan for beaver habitat

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 in natural sciences and management, environmental education or related field
- ✓ Ability to plan, organize and implement educational projects and volunteer work days
- ✓ Strong interest in educational and youth development programming through natural resources
- ✓ Excellent verbal and written and communication skills
- ✓ Computer proficiency (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 Western UP Michigan

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 May 13 to November 15, 2019. Benefits include \$6,866 living stipend, health insurance, \$3,047 education award and student loan deferment. Applications and directions are available at www.huronpines.org/amicorps and will be accepted until March 29, 2019.

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.

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