



Wissahickon Trails (formerly Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association) is a community-based conservation organization headquartered in Ambler, PA. For 65 years, we have worked to protect and restore nature in the Wissahickon Valley, preserving 1,300 acres of critical open space, building 24 miles of trails for public access, and protecting the health of the Wissahickon Creek. We believe people benefit when nature thrives. We are seeking a new member of our team who will have the opportunity to impact local environmental conservation and improve the quality of life in the Wissahickon Valley.

Environmental Educator

We are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic educator to join our team! The Environmental Educator is responsible for planning, coordinating and delivering education program activities. This includes collaborating with school partners, writing lesson plans, scheduling and teaching classes; conducting hands-on field activities; training volunteers to assist in the classroom or in performing other tasks and interacting with district administration and teachers as needed.

This is a mid-level, part-time, seasonal, non-exempt position reporting to the Engagement Director.

Essential Duties

- Cultivate partnerships with local schools and School Districts. Collaborate with administration and teachers as needed
- Develop lesson plans and deliver instructional activities that meet Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and facilitate experiential learning for students
- Utilize a variety of learning materials and resources for use in educational activities providing relevant technology to support instruction
- Work with teachers and principals to properly evaluate the programs; track responses and implement recommended changes
- Ensure compliance with safety policies and protocols on programs and projects; responsible for associated documentation
- Provide input into budgeting process
- Train and support volunteers as necessary
- Full-cycle program management, incl. collaboration, planning, implementation, evaluation and iteration. Responsible for reporting on the impacts of our school-based education programs
- Utilize google calendar to share schedule of in-class and field trip programs
- Support fundraising efforts for the education program as needed
- Collaborate with our Education Program Advisory Committee and provide support materials as necessary
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications & Core Competencies

The ideal candidate will meet 75% of these Core Competencies.

- Minimum of 5 years of experience with environmental education (including classroom and outdoor based learning as well as summer camps)

- A college degree in Education, Environmental Education, Communications, and/or Ecology/Biology
- Strong public speaking and communication skills; demonstrated experience delivering effective public presentations and educational programs
- Knowledge of curriculum standards (particularly Next Generation Science Standards) and informal education best practices and environmental interpretation techniques
- Organized and detail-oriented with demonstrated ability to create lesson plans and projects, managing them from start to finish
- Experience working with diverse groups from a wide age-range strongly preferred; strong emotional intelligence with relationship-building and interpersonal skills
- Working knowledge of issues in volunteer management, environmental education, sustainable trail and habitat management
- The ideal candidate cares deeply about the environment and conservation issues and is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion of people who have been historically excluded from the environmental sector
- Practice personal reflection and self-correction to assure continual professional growth

Physical Demands/Work Environment

The physical demands and work environment characteristics described are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the job, unless the requested accommodations would cause undue hardship.

The employee must be able to traverse 1-4 hours at a time outside at schools, preserves and trails across the watershed. Using hands, arms, and legs to lift, move, or operate program equipment. It is also regularly required to sit or stand at a desk for hours at a time, stand, walk and operate general office equipment (computer, telephone, file cabinets, copier, fax machine and printer).

Compensation

Hourly Rate of \$28-\$30 per hour for an average of 500 hours per year: spring and fall are the most active seasons to implement programming, winter and summer are slower planning periods.

This position comes with a retirement benefit (401k with up to 5% of salary matched by Wissahickon Trails 6 months into employment).

To Apply

Please send a cover letter and resume or CV to gail@wisshaickontrails.org. Applications must be received by August 7, 2023

About Wissahickon Trails

At Wissahickon Trails, we work to inspire and engage diverse communities of people in protecting, stewarding and enjoying the land and waterways of the Wissahickon Valley. The board and staff are a collaborative team driven by the belief that people benefit when nature thrives. Hard work is expected, so we have created an office environment that includes a few dogs, optional opportunities for socializing outside of work, staff field trips, and lots of laughs.

We value a racially, ethnically and culturally diverse work community and encourage applications from people of all backgrounds. Board and staff committees are working to build an inclusive, equitable, and diverse work environment and organization. Please feel free to ask us about this work! E.O.E.