

# Overnight & Travel Camps Coordinator



The Kalamazoo Nature Center is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire people to care for the environment by providing experiences that lead them to understand their connection to the natural world.

Because we value the strength diversity brings to the workplace, the Kalamazoo Nature Center is committed to the recruitment, retention, and development of a workforce that reflects the society in which we live. We encourage applications from candidates representing diverse backgrounds.

The Kalamazoo Nature Center is an equal opportunity organization that will not discriminate in its programs or hiring practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, height, weight, sexual orientation or gender identity, marital status, or political affiliation.

**The Kalamazoo Nature Center Camp Program Mission** is to provide safe experiences that allow all children to grow into active and respectful community members through exploration of the natural world.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Teach, guide and supervise day campers of all abilities, grades 6-12.
2. Provide an example of a model counselor on a consistent basis.
3. Help all to be included and feel accepted by encouraging participation of all.
4. Prepare, and execute quality environmental science, backpacking, canoeing, climbing, and teambuilding and low ropes programs.
5. Manage risk, teach technical skills, plan and lead overnight campouts and travel trips.
6. Communicate consistently with supervisors about group life and camper situations.
7. Work well under pressure and stay calm. Be confident in self to make decisions.
8. Supervise Junior Educators and volunteers.
9. Ensure health and safety of camp participants and staff.
10. Be versed in and demonstrate KNC's customer standards at all times.
11. Be willing to work with others in a supportive, friendly manner.
12. Other duties as assigned by supervisors.

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must be 21 years of age or older. Must be able to supervise children 40 hours a week with periods of overnight duties. Must be able to negotiate hilly terrain, rustic trails, and walk several miles per day. Must possess the stamina to carry out camp programs in hot and humid Michigan climate over an extended period of time. Must possess visual and auditory abilities to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards related to camp activity.

Must have a commitment to uphold a strong work and environmental ethic while respecting the diversity of culture and beliefs in our campers and fellow staff. Must possess the ability to communicate and work with groups of all ages and skill levels in order to provide necessary instruction to campers. Must be able to observe camper behavior, evaluate its appropriateness, and enforce and implement appropriate behavior management techniques.

Preference will be given to those who have earned or are working toward a degree in biology, ecology, environmental education, general education or other related field; and have experience working with children and leading backcountry trips.

A valid driver's license and good driving record are required and applicant must be able to commit to the entire 11 week camp schedule. First-aid training and CPR certification required (can be arranged)-WFR preferred. Large group leadership and backcountry tripping experience required.

## **EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS & COMPENSATION**

Paid staff training: June 11-15. Camp sessions: June 18 through August 17 except July 4th week. Evenings/overnight duties will be required. Base stipend is \$300 per week for first year staff. Staff receives a 20% discount in the Expedition Shop. Uniforms are provided. Free onsite housing is available.

**Application deadline is March 16, 2012**

**Group interviews will be held March 24<sup>th</sup>, 9am-4pm at the Kalamazoo Nature Center-View application online at**

***www.KNCCamp.org***

**Questions? Contact Jennifer Metz, Experiential Education Director Phone: 269-381-1574 Ext. 24 [jmetz@naturecenter.org](mailto:jmetz@naturecenter.org)**