Career Opportunity

Environmental Educator
The Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) seeks a full-time Environmental Educator to inspire and inform youth of all ages about the wonders of the natural world, particularly the workings of the Anacostia Watershed. Through AWS’s environmental education programs, this position will teach watershed education in area classrooms, lead field trips on the Anacostia River, conduct teacher trainings, and engage students in meaningful service learning projects. In addition, the Environmental Educator will provide information to and recruit area schools and teachers to participate in AWS programs. The Environmental Educator is a member of the Education Team, works directly with the Manager of Education, and works collaboratively across the organization.

The Environmental Educator is an integral part of the organization and will be an exciting opportunity to contribute to the watershed’s restoration and the engagement of diverse communities, partners, and other stakeholders to deliver on our mission to protect and restore the Anacostia River and its watershed by bringing partners and communities together to achieve a clean and safe Anacostia River for the benefit of all living in its watershed and for future generations.

About the Anacostia Watershed Society
Since its founding in 1989, the Anacostia Watershed Society has worked to attend to the environmental needs of the Anacostia River and its watershed communities. Over the past 30 years, AWS has grown and developed from a small group of concerned individuals into an award-winning $3 million non-profit that is deeply involved in a cause that affects many different communities within the 176 square mile region of the Washington, D.C. metro area.

As part of its mission, the Anacostia Watershed Society is invested in local areas, working with schools and students throughout Washington, D.C. and Montgomery and Prince George’s counties, engaging them in an experience that educates them through hands-on service and allows them to play a part in the continuing improvement of the Anacostia Watershed. In addition, AWS serves as a voice for the river; advocating for and actively involving itself in policies, actions, and programs that protect its ecological health, improve water quality, and work to mitigate the negative effects of stormwater, bacteria, and trash.

Throughout AWS’s existence, much progress has been made. The river has been subjected to heavy pollution for centuries and considered unfit for fishing and swimming for decades. It was once littered with trash and the wetlands had been almost entirely destroyed. With the work of AWS and help from others, we are now at a point where it is possible to look away from past devastation and focus on the future. The organization works towards a “Waterway to 2025” and envisions a future where the river is swimable and fishable by 2025 and beyond.

Key Accountabilities:
1. Implement meaningful environmental education program activities as needed to support achieving Education Team objectives.
   a. Facilitating classroom-based programming, leading interpretive boat tours, and engaging students and community members in hands on restoration activities.
2. Assist with program development, evaluation, and fundraising, as requested.
3. Participate in organization-wide efforts, strategic planning, and other tasks as assigned.

Key Requirements:
1. A command of the required technical information relevant to environmental science, teaching, and managing K-12 classrooms, Project WET curriculum, and other AWS education programs.
2. Interest in conservation, enthusiasm for the outdoors, and ability to work with children of all ages, especially experience working with youth in a metropolitan area.

3. Ability to collaboratively evaluate effectiveness, adapt program design and implementation, develop annual work plans, etc.

4. Self-motivation, innovation, and resourcefulness in doing whatever it takes to get the job done well.

5. Strong written and verbal communication skills, including persuasive and effective communication that forwards the purpose and mission of the organization; familiarity with use of computers and the internet.

6. A strong and active interest in learning and personal growth, including actively and reflectively pursuing growing self-awareness and receiving feedback from colleagues.

7. Willing, motivated, and able to work a flexible schedule that includes some evenings and weekends, work in the field, often outside in variable weather, travel, and driving to schools and field sites. Some physical work required (i.e. ability to lift up to 30 pounds).

8. Boating and paddling experience preferred.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:**

- Experience working as an educator with a demonstrated interest and/or experience in conservation/environmental education preferred.
- Experience engaging children/youth and adults with experiential learning is a plus.
- Bachelor’s degree is an added plus.
- Demonstrated success in effective program design and delivery.
- Experienced with community engagement and outreach.
- Some medium to heavy lifting (such as canoes, kayaks, landscaping material, Shad and Mussel hatcheries, etc.).
- Demonstrated success in working cross functionally to execute on program that will engage partners and members, and drive behavior change.

We are offering a competitive compensation package that includes a competitive base salary and benefits package. Salary range is in the low $40Ks depending on experience.

Interested applicants should email a résumé formally expressing your interest to askhr@anacostiaws.org.

AWS encourages and embraces diversity.