



Education/Animal Caretaker Intern Position

Marsh Haven Nature Center is a private, non-profit center located on the north end of the Horicon Marsh in south central Wisconsin. We have 46-acres of mixed habitat, including wetland, prairie and woods. The facility includes a main building - with museum displays, theater, classroom and visitors center - hiking trails, observation tower, bunkhouse for overnight stays, and a picnic shelter. Our animal ambassador programs include non-releasable raptors, corvid, opossums, and reptiles (turtles, tortoises and snake). The Horicon Marsh is a Wetland of International Importance and a prime birding area.

The education/animal caretaker intern will be responsible for assisting the director with providing high-quality care to our current non-releasable education ambassadors. Interns will gain valuable hands-on experience with animal husbandry and training, enclosure and equipment maintenance, record keeping, educational programming and outreach. They will also gain experience and insight into the management of a nature center, working with volunteers, assisting visitors, permitting and license requirements, and program planning. This position runs mid-May through mid August. Start and end times are flexible based on school schedules.

Responsibilities:

- Assist with feeding, training, and hands-on care of our animals, including enclosure maintenance and record keeping
- Research and implement safe enrichment items for a variety of animals, assist in making equipment, such as jesses, anklets
- Assist with visitor center staffing two weekends a month
- Assist in updating and organizing program records and curriculum binders and totes
- Give presentations while properly handling live animals including mammals, reptiles, raptors and other birds
- Provide educational experiences to visitors through Keeper Chats and Animals Ambassador Encounters, along with day to day casual encounters
- Create and present an interpretive talk for education of visitors
- Assist with outreach programs, field trip programs or summer programs

Eligibility

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- College degree or working towards is preferred, but not required
- Personal transportation is recommended, but not required
- Must be able to do work such as lifting, bending, stooping, and carrying heavy objects.
- Must be comfortable learning food preparation for meat-eating animals.
- Ability to follow caretaking guidelines and treat all animals with respect and kindness

- Comfortable with public speaking
- Comfortable working with people of all ages, abilities and cultures
- Effective written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Computer skills including Microsoft Office and internet research
- Positive attitude and strong work ethic
- An interest in birds and other animals!

Benefits/Compensation/Misc.

- Internships are unpaid, but free onsite housing is available
- Experience handling live animals
- Experience developing and presenting interpretive programs for people of different ages and backgrounds.
- Beautiful work surroundings
- Intern position is typically 25-35 hours a week – there is flexibility
- We are happy to work with interns to receive college credit for this internship

If you have an interest in this position, please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references by March 15, 2024. Candidate reviews will be complete by April 1. Intern position starts mid-May based on school schedule. If you have any specific questions, please contact Renee at (920) 318-9518 or director@marshhaven.org. Submit information to above email or by mail to: Marsh Haven Nature Center, W10145 State Road 49, Waupun, WI 53963