



Nature Day Camp Summer Intern

Compensation: \$16.50/hr, Academic Credit available

Time commitment: Up to 28hrs/week (120hrs total) Mid-June - July

Must be available 8:00am-2:00pm Monday - Friday

Reports to: Shelly Skolfield, Education Coordinator
12208 SE Evergreen Hwy, Vancouver, WA

About Columbia Springs:

Columbia Springs, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, is a 100-acre natural area, educational center, and historic fish hatchery in the heart of Vancouver. Our goal is to use educational experiences to foster a greater awareness of the natural world, inspiring stewardship. We host field trips for over 6,000 school children each year, offer sustainable living workshops, guided walks, festivals, and more for all-ages to enjoy.

About the Position:

The Columbia Springs Summer Camp Interns will work under the guidance of our Environmental Education Staff for our Summer Nature Camp season. Interns will receive training on environmental education, small group facilitation, Pacific Northwest ecology, and sustainability practices. Additionally, interns will assist with leading four weeks of our summer day camps for youth ages 7-13. As a Summer Camp Intern, interns will be an ambassador of Columbia Springs and a role model to youth participating in summer camp programs.

Interns will have access to professional development opportunities, such as team trainings and resume writing support. In addition, Columbia Springs has a wide variety of programs not included in the scope of this internship. We encourage all Interns to shadow staff members, host informational interviews, attend additional events, and gain experience in other fields related to their internship.

Schedule (approximately 120 hrs):

This position includes training, prep, hosting summer camps and wrap-up/reflection. Interns will complete between 90-120hrs between the dates of June 11th and July 26th. A minimum of 90 hrs is required for academic credit. The schedule below includes some training and prep time that is flexible so interns can balance other commitments, however, **it is expected that interns can be available from 8:00am-2pm during the weeks of camp** (highlighted below in blue).

- Orientation & training before camp starts- TBD (up to 6 hrs the week of June 13th)
- June 20th-24th 8am-2pm daily – Camp Session 1 (27.5 hrs)
- June 27th – July 1st 8am- 2pm daily – Camp Session 2 (27.5hrs)
- July 5th-8th – Team meeting, projects (4-10 hrs, 10-2pm)
- July 11th-15th 8am-2pm daily – Camp Session 3 (27.5 hrs)
- July 18-22 8am-2pm daily – Camp Session 4 (27.5hrs)
- July 25th & 26th Camp wrap up/reflection (5-10 hrs, 10-3pm)

Responsibilities and Duties:

Summer Camp Interns will be responsible for:

- Providing a safe and respectful learning environment
- Leading as an example including following all CS safety & wellness guidelines
- Assisting with all crafts, game and activities
- Doing set-up/clean-up after activities
- Interacting with camp parents and care-givers
- Supervising campers during lunch and snack breaks
- Assisting with behavior management
- Leading activities during check-in, check-out and lunch.

Qualifications:

To be eligible for the position interns must be current high school or college students and able to commit to the hours and dates listed above. The following qualifications will also be considered:

- *This position requires full vaccination against Covid-19, including recommended boosters.*
- Must be excited to work hard, learn a lot, and get dirty!
- Experience working with youth a plus (but not required)
- Interest in mentoring & working with youth, and environmental issues
- Strong communication skills
- Excellent work ethic (reliable, punctual, hard-working, positive)
- Ability to walk, run and keep up with young children
- Must be able to secure transportation to our site (no bus line nearby).

Rewards:

In addition to monetary compensation, Summer Camp Interns will receive:

- Valuable teamwork, leadership, and small group management experience
- Skills in working with and engaging youth in a variety of settings and activities
- Knowledge of Pacific Northwest ecology and sustainability issues
- Camp t-shirt and instructional materials
- Possible college credit
- Evaluation of and feedback on work
- Ability to attend workshops, tours, and events at Columbia Springs
- Professional development support such as help with resume building and informational interviews with professionals from the environmental, education and non-profit spheres

To Apply:

- Send a resume and cover letter to Shelly Skolfield at learn@columbiasprings.org
- **Position open until filled.**
- **Note: Interns must be able to be on-site between 8:00 am-2pm, Mon- Fri.**