



# **MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER**

## **SEASONAL JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**POSITION TITLE:** Environmental Educator

### **ABOUT THE NATURE CENTER**

The Minna Anthony Common Nature Center was established in 1969, and has served the community through environmental education for over fifty years. We are widely known within the Thousand Islands for our school field trips, special events, and picturesque trails along the St. Lawrence River. Wellesley Island State Park, in which the Nature Center is located, is home to one of the largest campground facilities within New York State Parks.

### **ABOUT THE POSITION**

Environmental Educators connect park visitors to the natural world. As one of the flagship Nature Centers in the NYS Parks system, we offer a robust assortment of programming. These programs range to include interpretive hikes, lectures, family-friendly activities, and various outdoor recreation opportunities such as snowshoeing in winter and fishing clinics in the summer. July and August is our busiest time of year – we offer daily programming serving Wellesley Island State Park camping patrons, day-use visitors, tourists, summer residents, and locals alike.

### **SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Under supervision, develop and present public programming in the areas of environmental education, outdoor recreation, ecology, wildlife viewing, nature awareness, arts and culture.
2. Greet visitors and provide impromptu interpretation at the Nature Center and off-site special events within the Thousand Islands.
3. Lead stewardship activities with volunteers and the public, such as gardening, trail maintenance, and habitat restoration.
4. Maintain all teaching materials including tools, books, taxidermy, specimens, and art supplies.
5. Provide administrative support such as staffing front desk, answering phones, creating and distributing promotional materials (program flyers, calendar of events posters etc.).
6. Operate cash register to collect program fees and process gift shop transactions.
7. Assist with upkeep of Nature Center exhibits, building, grounds, gardens, and trails.

## **PREFERRED SKILLS**

1. Education, experience, or a strong curiosity about the natural world
2. Teaching experience or willingness to develop public speaking skills
3. Friendly and courteous
4. Professional attitude and demeanor
5. Creativity and attention to detail
6. Ability to work weekends
7. Ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions
8. Ability to lift up to 40 lbs
9. Ability to hike at least one mile over varied terrain
10. Ability to assist with maintenance work
11. Comfortable on the water, including paddling a kayak or canoe
12. Comfortable working with children
13. Comfortable working around animals (live animal exhibits, leashed dogs, wildlife)
14. Valid driver's license

## **WORKING CONDITIONS**

Environmental Educators work both outdoors and indoors – hiking trails, guiding tours, and providing educational programming. Educators may also assist with Nature Center building maintenance and outdoor gardening as needed.

## **DATES, HOURS, AND COMPENSATION**

This is a summer seasonal position. Start and end dates are flexible, with the possibility of starting as early as April and ending as late as October. Nature Center staff works 40 hours a week, 7:30am–4:00pm. A typical workweek is Wednesday through Sunday. Compensation starts at \$12.50 per hour.

## **TO APPLY**

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis starting in January. To apply, please download an [Employment Application online](https://parks.ny.gov/employment) (parks.ny.gov/employment), and email completed application to [WellesleyIslandStatePark@parks.ny.gov](mailto:WellesleyIslandStatePark@parks.ny.gov). Cover letter and resume is optional. As the subject line of your email, please write “Last name, First name: Environmental Educator.” If you have any questions, feel free to speak with the Nature Center Director at (315) 482-2479.