



Piedmont Wildlife Center Summer Camp Outdoor Counselor

Do you love exploring the outdoors? Are you passionate about mentoring children and connecting them with nature? Piedmont Wildlife Center is currently seeking seasonal full-time **Summer Camp Outdoor Counselors**.

About Our Organization: Piedmont Wildlife Center is a Durham-based non-profit organization encouraging conservation and inspiring people to build lifelong connections with nature through immersive outdoor education, citizen science, and wildlife stewardship. We pursue this mission through afterschool, homeschool, and year-round camp programming in the great outdoors. The Center also offers conservation-focused field trips and outreach programs with our Ambassador Animals.

Land Acknowledgement: Our camps operate out of Leigh Farm Park in Durham County and Blackwood Farm Park in Orange County. Both parks are remnants of 19th-century plantations and are on land that was once part of the shared territory of Saponi, Tuscarora, Occaneechi, Cheraw, Eno, Shakori, Catawba, and Lumbee nations. The county parks departments have preserved multiple historic structures in our locations. In addition, we operate camps at Umstead State Park in Wake County which was once a segregated park and indigenous territory. It is imperative that we discuss this history with our staff and campers, amplify the stories of the indigenous and enslaved peoples who cared for the land and continue learning about and examining the parks' legacy.

Position Summary: Outdoor Camp Counselors will plan and facilitate engaging activities for youth day camp programs that focus on developing deep nature connections. Counselors are responsible for safely leading groups of 12-15 campers ages 5-12 and one Counselor-in-Training age 13-17 through outdoor educational activities while monitoring both individual and group needs and adapting plans to help all individuals successfully engage in programming. Whether experienced in education, advanced survival, environmental science, or outdoor recreation, counselors should be passionate about sharing their unique skillset with campers, helping them develop their own connection to nature, and inspiring them to protect the natural world around them.

This position is available at our Durham, Orange, and Wake county locations.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Create daily activity plans for your camp group and gather associated materials.
- Facilitate outdoor camp activities focused on nature connection and environmental education.
- Supervise camper safety and enforce activity policies, including [our COVID-19 protocol](#)
- Communicate with co-counselors, program coordinators, and parents about program outcomes and camper behavior.

- Lead Counselors
 - Manage the overall flow of the day and coordinate larger group decisions.
 - Point person for emergency situations and enforcement of safety policies.
- Support Counselors
 - Offer more individualized support to help engage all campers.

Qualifications:

- Childcare and/or education experience.
- Leadership experience.
- Excited and comfortable with playing outside in all weather conditions including rain and heat.
- Experience with stories and inquiry-based teaching methods.
- Flexibility with changes in programming and scheduling.
- Basic experience with G Suite.
- At least 17 years of age.
- First aid certification is required for lead counselors before the first day of work.

Unique Considerations:

- Ability to hike at least 2 miles comfortably.
- Comfortable exploring muddy and swampy areas.
- Knowledge of local ecology or tracking and survival skills.
- Reliable transportation to Wake, Durham, and/or Orange County locations.
- Relevant outdoor certifications such as Wilderness First Aid/Responder, Certified Interpretive Guide, Leave No Trace Master Educator, and/or NC Environmental Educator are highly encouraged but not required.

Schedule:

- Mandatory staff training is June 7th-9th.
 - A second staff training will be offered in mid-July for anyone hired after the start of camp.
- Summer programming runs June 12 through August 18, 2023.
- Days run 7:15 am - 3:30 pm M - F.
- Option for aftercare, 2:45 pm - 5:30 pm M - F.

Pay:

- Support Counselors earn \$11 - 12/hr based on relevant experience and current certifications.
- Lead Counselors earn \$12 - 14/hr based on relevant experience and current certifications.

To Apply: Please email your resume and optional cover letter to camp@piedmontwildlifecenter.org with the subject line "Summer Camp Counselor Application – *Your Name*". Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

If you have questions or require more information about this position, please contact us at 919-489-0900 or camp@piedmontwildlifecenter.org.

Non-discrimination policy: PWC does not discriminate in employment or recruitment of board members, staff, volunteers or provision of services on the basis of sex, creed, race, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or national origin.