



## **Piedmont Wildlife Center Summer Camp Specialty 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 **Summer Camp Specialty 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. 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:** Specialty Camp Counselors should have thorough knowledge and teaching ability for unique outdoor and nature skills. These counselors will plan and facilitate engaging activities for specialty youth day camp programs that focus on developing deep nature connections and sharpening nature skills. 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. Unique skills we are looking for include: advanced fire building, flint knapping, advanced shelter building, trap making, archery, tracking, foraging, botany/forest ecology, natural craft making, etc.

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

### **Primary Responsibilities:**

- Create daily activity plans for your camp group and gather associated materials.
- Facilitate outdoor camp activities focused on nature connection, environmental education, and skill building.
- 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.

- Work with your co-counselor to manage the overall flow of the day and coordinate larger group decisions. Work together to ensure one counselor is offering more individualized support to help engage all campers while the other acts as point-person for the overall group.

**Qualifications:**

- Childcare and/or education experience.
- Leadership experience.
- Excited and comfortable with teaching 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 18 years of age.
- First aid certification is required 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 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 5th-10th.
- Specialty camps run July 15-19, July 22-26, July 29-Aug 2.

**Pay:** \$16/hr

**To Apply:** Please email your resume and optional cover letter to [camp@piedmontwildlifecenter.org](mailto:camp@piedmontwildlifecenter.org) with the subject line "Summer Camp Specialty 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](mailto: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.