



Launch Steward Positions

Aquatic Invasive Species Resource Education/Launch Steward Positions

Multiple positions available

Coverage Area (7 County Area): *Oneida Lake & South/East Lake Ontario*

Employment Dates: *Seasonal June 5 - September 10, 2014*

Application Deadline: *Ongoing until Positions are Filled*

Pay & Hours: *\$12.25/hour; up to 35 hours/week*

Position Summary: Spend your summer outdoors on some of NY's beautiful waters. Help keep NY's waters free of aquatic invasive species (AIS) by teaching boaters how to look for, remove and dispose of unwanted aquatic hitchhikers. Stewards will provide public outreach (education) about local natural resources, how AIS threaten our waterways, and ways to minimize/prevent the spread of AIS. They will help prevent the introduction and transport of unwanted aquatic hitchhikers by teaching boaters, by demonstration, how to visually inspect boats and trailers for debris including AIS. Using provided protocol, stewards collect, enter and analyze boat inspection data. Stewards will submit weekly reports and time cards and attend weekly meetings. Most work days will be spent outdoors, in all weather, and will include weekends and holidays. While on duty, successful candidates will wear the provided uniform.

Primary Duties: Boater interaction including watercraft inspection and related data collection, development of educational materials including the media project, and outreach events targeting boaters and the general public.

Media Project: Media projects are educational materials that relate to boat inspection/AIS. Examples of media project concepts include: contribution to the NYSG Launch Steward blog; creation of "digital shorts," collecting and packaging of program-related resources for a public resource repository; creation and implementation of a "where are they now" tracking system for former stewards and summary of results; and the development and implementation of a survey for larger events (county fair, boat shows, NYS fair, etc.). Other topics will be considered. All media project concepts must be approved by the program coordinator. Stewards will follow and meet the media project protocol and deadlines.

Coverage Area: Stewards will be assigned to work at a cluster of select boat launch ramps along Lake Ontario (between Henderson Harbor and Sodus Bay) on Oneida Lake. Launches are located in Cayuga, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and Wayne counties.

Stewards are supervised by NYSG's Coastal Community Development Specialist and supervise no other employees; however, supervision of volunteers may be required.

Duties Include but are Not Limited to:

- 1. Education:** one-on-one at launch sites and watercraft inspection; organized outreach programs; development of educational materials as requested
- 2. Monitoring & Data Collection:** using provided protocol monitor human/wildlife usage patterns, ecosystem condition/threats and progress of restoration projects as requested; watercraft inspection data collection
- 3. Meetings & Reporting:** attend assigned meetings; prepare media project; submit reports; manage data collected.

Knowledge/Skills:

1. Mature personality with excellent communication (verbal and written) skills.
2. Minimum 2 years combined education and experience in environmental education, natural resources management, biology, environmental studies, or a related field preferred.
3. Demonstrate an interest in environmental work and understanding of program-related issues through education, volunteer work and/or hobbies.
4. Ability to work independently and responsibly with minimal supervision.
5. Ability to accurately collect and summarize data according to established protocol.
6. Valid driver's license. Must provide own transportation to work sites and meeting locations.
7. Well organized and ability to coordinate multiple tasks.

Additional Notes:

Graduate students are encouraged to apply and use this opportunity to conduct their research. If you are interested in exploring the possibility of earning college credit (undergraduate/graduate) while gaining valuable employment experience, please apply.

Interviews are anticipated to begin March 31, 2014, or sooner.

How to Apply:

Cover letters, a list of five references, and resumes may be emailed to Mary Penney at mp357@cornell.edu. For each of your references include how you are affiliated with them and their contact information (email and phone number). Please be sure to include the following information in your cover letter:

- * Available start date
- * Date you can work until
- * The locations you are interested in

For More Information:

Contact Mary Penney, New York Sea Grant Coastal Community Development Specialist and Launch Steward Program Coordinator, at mp357@cornell.edu or 315-312-3042.

PENDING FUNDING