



Graduate & Undergraduate Resource/Recreation Management Opportunities

TITLE:	Eastern Lake Ontario Dune Steward (up to 5 positions available)
LOCATION:	Oswego & Jefferson Counties, NY
DURATION:	May 21 - Approximately September 1, 2008
APPLICATION DEADLINE:	ongoing until positions are filled

SUMMARY of POSITION:

Eastern Lake Ontario Dune Stewards are responsible for public outreach (education), patrol, and site maintenance on beaches within the 17 mile Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes and Wetlands System in Oswego and Jefferson Counties, NY. Stewards will be assigned primary responsibility for specific sites managed by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, and The Nature Conservancy. Assigned sites will include one or more of the following: El Dorado Nature Preserve, Black Pond Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Lakeview WMA, Sandy Pond Beach Natural Area, and Deer Creek Marsh WMA.

Eastern Lake Ontario Dune Stewards will each develop a media project under the supervision of the Steward Coordinator and the New York Sea Grant Great Lakes Activities Publicist. Each project will include a newspaper article, public outreach program, and a project summary paper complete with photos. Topics related to the Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes and Wetlands Area can be considered for this project. The Steward Coordinator has the final determination in topic appropriateness.

Dune Stewards are required to work all weekends and holidays. One weekend off will be arranged during the season. Dune Stewards will submit weekly written reports of daily work completed, problems encountered, and a summary of weekly duties performed to the Steward Coordinator. Dune Stewards are supervised by the Steward Coordinator and supervise no other employees; however, supervision of volunteers may be required. Successful candidates are expected to wear a uniform (provided) while on duty.

The Eastern Lake Ontario Dune Steward & Salmon River Steward Program is managed by New York Sea Grant in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Parks, and The Nature Conservancy.

Duties include but are not limited to the following:

1. Conduct one-on-one onsite public education, interpretive field trips, monitor dune sites, prepare media project, educational materials, press releases and other materials as requested.
2. Educate the public regarding the significance of the natural resources of the Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes and Wetlands Area and the importance of the regulations that are vital to their protection through discussions, handouts, and presentations.
3. Educate the public regarding current topics that could influence the fragile dunes and wetlands along the shoreline of Lake Ontario.
4. Conduct informal and formal outreach programs in the local community.
5. Maintain the site and site facilities (signs, fencing and walkovers) and work with other staff as requested. Site maintenance includes repairing and when necessary relocating fencing and signs, dune restoration, exotic species control and regular beach clean up.
6. Provide support for an existing volunteer network.
7. Monitor human visitation patterns, dune condition, and progress of restoration plantings, and wildlife usage. Stewards report these data in a timely fashion according to prescribed protocols.
8. Meet regularly with the other Stewards and the Steward Coordinator to coordinate system-wide activities, exchange information, raise issues, and explore solutions to problems.

Knowledge/Skills:

1. Mature personality with excellent interpersonal communication skills. Must have the ability to successfully present information and communicate ideas to a diverse audience, and to react in a positive, proactive manner in confrontational circumstances.
2. Minimum 2 years combined education and experience in environmental education, natural resources management, biology, environmental studies, or a related field preferred. Familiarity with Eastern Lake Ontario flora and fauna (including shorebird) identification preferred but not necessary.
3. Ability to work independently and responsibly with minimal supervision.
4. Excellent technical writing skills preferred.
5. Ability to accurately collect and summarize data according to established protocol.
6. Willingness to work all weekends and holidays.
7. Valid driver's license. Must provide own transportation to work sites and meeting locations.
8. Ability to perform tasks requiring physical exertion and walk up to 8 miles per day in soft sand.
9. Ability to use a small motorboat and canoe preferred.
10. Enthusiasm about protecting a unique and fragile ecosystem!!!!

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.

Hourly Wage: \$9/hour; 35 hours/week

PLEASE SEND COVER LETTER, RESUME, & CONTACT INFORMATION FOR 5 REFERENCES TO:

Mary Penney

NY Sea Grant

SUNY Oswego

Oswego, NY 13126

Email: mp357@cornell.edu

Phone: 315-312-3042

Fax: 315-312-2954