

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Operations



Reinstein Woods Environmental Education Center

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Website: www.dec.ny.gov/education/1837.html

Location

Reinstein Woods is located in western New York, approximately 20 minutes from downtown Buffalo and 10 minutes from Interstate 90 in Cheektowaga, NY.

Description

The environmental education center is located at the Dr. Victor Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, a unique 292-acre complex of forests, ponds, and wetlands surrounded by suburban development. Often referred to as "Buffalo's Backyard Wilderness," Reinstein Woods includes 19 ponds and wetlands created by a man-made system of dams, approximately 76 acres of mature Beech-Maple forest, and the largest American beech tree in New York state. Other important habitats include immature forests, conifer plantations, vernal pools, shrub swamp and wet meadow. Reinstein Woods is one of the best places to easily see wildlife in western New York. Great blue herons, beaver, deer, mink, snapping turtles, pileated woodpeckers, wood ducks, frogs and many other wildlife species are often observable.

A 4,900 square foot education center opened in April 2007. The center, a LEED-certified green building, features exhibits, a library, a classroom, nature viewing, meeting rooms, and offices. Currently, there are three miles of self-guided interpretive trails at Reinstein Woods, with pamphlets or signs to help visitors enjoy nature at their own pace.

Seasonal nature programs are offered year-round on a variety of topics, such as spring wildflowers, bird watching, snowshoeing, stroller struts, and full moon walks.

The Reinstein Woods Intern

The duties of the intern vary throughout the year. Interns would be responsible for such tasks as leading tours for the public and school groups, presenting programs to schools and scouts, trail monitoring, contributing to the newsletter, performing building/phone duty, light office work, database maintenance for library materials, and other relevant research. All interns complete a major project, arranged with the supervisor.

Qualifications

Anyone with a minimum of two years of college-level study or equivalent experience and able to work in the United States may apply. Academic training in natural resources, natural sciences (biology, geology), environmental science, interpretation, education, recreation or a related field is advantageous. Preference will be given to candidates with a strong natural history background, experience with teaching or youth leadership, and a demonstrated interest in environmental education. We expect interns to have a professional attitude and exemplify the standards of the NYSDEC. **Valid driver's license required.**

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NATURALIST INTERN APPLICATION— REINSTEIN WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Contact Information

Name: _____

Sex: M F

Address: _____

Are you over 18 years of age? Y N

E-mail: _____

I will be at this location until _____

Phone Number: _____

Best time to be reached _____

Internship Availability

Seasons Available (number the seasons you are available in order of preference and fill in the year):

___ **Winter/Spring:** January to mid-June [20___]

___ **Summer:** Mid-June to August [20___]

___ **Fall:** September to December [20___]

Application Deadlines

Please submit your application by the following date for each season:

Winter/Spring = September 30; Summer = February 28; Fall = May 31

Required Information

Your application must include this completed form (or the information it contains in a Word document), your current resume, your personal statement, and list of references. Please submit it in its entirety by mail, fax, or email.

Current Resume

Please include:

- Education and work history
- List pertinent college courses
- Other notable experiences
- Hobbies, interests, skills

Personal Statement

How will you benefit from this program? Include career goals, interests, environmental concerns, etc.

References

Please include the name, email address, and phone number for a professor or a supervisor and a personal reference.

Signature _____

Date _____