

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

2023 Camp Tule Naturalist



Located at the Laguna Environmental Center in Santa Rosa, **Camp Tule** is a nature-based day camp for children ages 6-12. Camp Tule is a place where children grow creatively, and spend structured and unstructured time exploring, learning and playing in nature. Each camp day is spent outdoors and filled with exploration, discovery, creativity, and nature games all designed to connect children to the environment. Children learn about the plants and animals of the Laguna de Santa Rosa ecosystem in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Who We Are

Founded in 1989, the Laguna Foundation is a place-based organization focused on the Laguna de Santa Rosa and the surrounding wetland communities. We are a non-profit with the mission to restore and conserve the Laguna de Santa Rosa, and to inspire appreciation of this Sonoma County Wetland of International Importance. Our work focuses on improving the environment for wildlife and people, and teaching about the Laguna in schools and during workshops, classes, and outings for all ages.

The Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation is looking for a motivated and capable individual to join the Camp Tule leadership circle as a **Naturalist**. Responsibilities include planning for, teaching and helping to facilitate *Laguna Explorers: Camp Tule*. Naturalists help set a joyful tone at camp and lead exploratory walks, environmental education activities, and games for children ages 6-12. Naturalists will also help supervise Counselors and Counselors-in-Training while working as a team to ensure positive experiences for all and safe learning adventures. Naturalists will gain experience in effective strategies for working with children and strengthen their leadership and environmental education teaching skills.

Key Accountabilities

- Contribute to the camp leadership team in planning activities and schedules while exemplifying and fostering our core values of integrity, generosity of spirit, collaboration, innovation, passion, and well-being to help promote healthy child development and to ensure a joyful camp experience of connecting to nature through inquisitiveness for each child.
- Learn the Camp Tule staff handbooks, teach environmental education activities, and run small and large group explorations and structured learning experiences.

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- Initiate and lead nature-based games, crafts, group play, etc.
- Supervise campers during both structured and unstructured activities and explorations.
- Supervise counselors and counselors in training.
- Keep campers safe and happy by using positive motivation techniques, work within the Camp prescribed codes of conduct, and follow all safety guidelines.
- Attend morning and afternoon meetings with all Camp staff and volunteers to reflect, plan, and prepare for the day's activities.

What We Are Looking For in a Candidate

- Must be 18 years of age or more.
- Positive attitude with an enthusiastic desire to be a role-model, friend, and teacher to children.
- Experience, interest, and comfort working with children.
- Demonstrated emotional maturity and cooperative spirit.
- Demonstrated patience, compassion, and the ability to remain calm under pressure.
- Ability to undertake high-levels of responsibility.
- Work experience or structured classroom learning in environmental education, formal education, or other recreational day-camp leadership experience.
- Must pass a criminal background check prior to employment.

Other Desirable Qualifications

- College-level coursework in environmental studies, education, or child development.
- Prior role as a naturalist at a camp or other recreational day-camp leadership.
- Knowledge of the natural world and the Laguna wetland ecosystem.
- Creative skills in music, art, crafting, etc.
- Bilingual skills a plus.
- Certification in CPR Training and First Aid Training.

Physical Requirements

- Ability to walk, run, or hike approximately 5 miles over the course of the day.
- Comfortable working in variable weather conditions including cold, heat, and wind, with the potential to encounter poisonous plants and stinging and biting insects, including ticks.



- Vision abilities include close vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.
- Ability to communicate effectively to campers ages 6-12 in order to provide necessary instructions, and apply appropriate behavior-management techniques in a positive manner.

Travel Requirements

Camp Staff must have reliable transportation to the Laguna Environmental Center each day and are expected to arrive ready to work by 8:00 AM and to remain on site until the conclusion of the work day unless prior arrangements have been made with the Camp Director. NOTE: there is no bus service to the Laguna Environmental Center. Address of worksite is 900 Sanford Rd, Santa Rosa 95401.

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Schedule

Work day is from 8:00 am - 3:45 pm as scheduled below.

- Camp Staff Training: Tuesday - Friday, June 20 - 23, 2023
- Camp Session 1 (6-9 yo): Monday - Friday, June 26 - June 30
- Camp staff work days: Thursday - Friday, July 6 - 7
- Camp Session 2 (6-9 yo): Monday - Friday, July 10 - 14
- Camp Session 3 (6-9 yo): Monday - Friday, July 17 - 21
- Camp Session 4 (10-12 yo): Monday - Friday, July 24 - 28
- Camp Debrief & Clean-up work days: Monday - Tuesday, July 31 - August 1

Compensation

\$21.00 - \$22.00 per hour based on experience. This is a temporary, part-time position with a defined end date of employment. Naturalists are not eligible for participation in the Foundation's employer-sponsored benefits package.

How To Apply

Please complete and submit the Camp Tule Counselor Job Application online at:
https://bit.ly/2023_Camp_Tule_Naturalist or follow the QR code below.

Do not submit a photo. Applications must be received by Sunday, May 14, 2023 at 11:59 PM. We will confirm receipt of your application. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview to take place between May 22 - 26, 2023.

Contact Education Director, Christine Fontaine, with questions.
christine@lagunafoundation.org

Laguna Foundation
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