

CFPA Education Director: Full-time Job Opportunity

We encourage you to apply for this job opportunity if you're interested in working:

- At a positive, mission-focused, non-profit conservation organization;
- With a team dedicated to getting people outdoors, conserving forests, parks and a state-wide network of Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails; and
- As part of an organization dedicated to the principles of JEDI - Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Position Summary

The Education Director is a full-time exempt employee and senior staff member, reporting to CFPA's Executive Director.

CFPA works to conserve Connecticut for today and tomorrow: We connect people to forests, parks, and the Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails to ensure their protection for future generations.

The Education Director's job is to supervise a state-wide environmental education program that promotes environmental literacy for adult and youth learners and interested members of the community. Current programs include our Master Woodlands Manager program that helps woodland stewards and open-space managers learn how to take care of natural resources and manage for climate change; a partnership with the James L. Goodwin Conservation Center to implement a Master Naturalist program; co-sponsorship (with CT-DEEP) of Project Learning Tree with a particular emphasis on program delivery in underserved communities; and, supervision of a robust group of volunteers who conduct environmental education programs on Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails and other sites throughout the state. The Director leads through their example and demonstrates best-practices for environmental education, provides content and materials, and supports program delivery by collaborating on the management of grants. They will engage and empower partner organizations, state agency personnel, school district leadership, teachers, and CFPA's contractors and volunteer educators to implement this work. As a member of CFPA's leadership team, they will encourage everyone in the CFPA community to care about and understand nature, and make sure that CFPA's culture, systems, and procedures support environmental education.

Responsibilities

Education Program Development and Leadership (70% time)

- Develop and implement a vision and strategy for expanding CFPA's educational programming statewide that is consistent with CFPA's strategic plan; Nurture partnerships with local school districts, non-profit, academic and government partners to fulfill the vision and achieve programmatic goals.
- Ensure that CFPA's educational programming is accessible and aligns with Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) principles.
- Provide statewide leadership to implement, grow and develop the award-winning Master Woodland Manager Program. Plan, coordinate, conduct and evaluate program delivery for the Master Woodland Manager curriculum. Maintain shared purpose and collaboration with program partners. Promote the program to ensure its long-term viability.
- Plan, coordinate, conduct, and evaluate teacher/educator training sessions in Project Learning Tree curriculum; Maintain affiliation with Project Learning Tree according to memorandum of understanding and serve as statewide co-coordinator for program delivery.
- Develop partnerships with school districts in underserved areas of the state.
- Collaborate with partners to assist in the delivery of the Master Naturalist curriculum and other materials and resources as necessary.
- Create a positive work environment and advance program objectives through supervision of paid staff, contractors and volunteers.

Community Engagement and Development (30% time)

- Promote CFPA's mission and membership by curating, supervising and conducting engaging experiences that connect people to the land, Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails, and CFPA's mission.
- Prepare educational materials for CFPA website, social media and publications, in collaboration with staff and contractors.
- Collaborate with Development staff to write, secure and administer grants to support education programs.

Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Undergraduate or graduate degree, or comparable experience, in natural resources or environmental education field.
- Minimum three to five years of experience implementing environmental education programs or curricula. Experience with Project Learning Tree is preferred.

- Program development experience.
- Demonstrated experience working with volunteers and creating a sense of belonging for individuals giving the gift of their time.
- Sensitivity to the needs and experiences of learners of all ages from diverse backgrounds.
- Knowledge of how people relate to nature across Connecticut's continuum of urban, suburban, and rural landscapes.
- Demonstrated ability to create a positive and motivating environment for professional educators and volunteers.
- Demonstrated ability to create an inclusive and equitable learning environment for all.
- Grant writing, grant administration, and budgeting experience.
- Passion for the conservation of Connecticut's woodlands, flora and fauna in communities throughout the state.
- Ability to work in outdoor and indoor environments.
- Driver's license and insurance, or the ability to obtain such.
- Ability to pass a criminal background check.

Salary and Benefits

The salary range for the Education Director position is between \$55,000 and \$70,000 annually, depending on experience. CFPA also offers a generous and comprehensive benefits package including 100%-employer premium paid medical, dental, and vision insurance; 403(b) Plan upon employment, including a discretionary 4% employer contribution after 1 year of employment; and 12 paid holidays.

Schedule and Location

The Education Director's schedule is flexible as necessary to accommodate programs that occur on weekends and evenings. The position is based at CFPA's headquarters in Rockfall, Connecticut, and also requires off-site work on a regular basis.

For more information about CFPA and the position, go to www.ctwoodlands.org

To Apply

Please provide the following .pdf documents addressed to the attention of CFPA's Executive Director, Andy Bicking, via www.ctwoodlands.org/edu-apply. No phone calls or drop-ins, please.

1. Cover letter;
2. Resume showing relevant experience and skills; and
3. Three (3) professional references.