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## **Trail Crew Member Position Description**

Love working outside? Want to gain real hands-on experience in the trail conservation and outdoor recreation fields? What to take on the challenge of working, traveling, and camping in a small tight-knit group? Join our Summer Trail Crew as a Crew Member and help improve Connecticut's 825-mile Blue-Blazed Hiking Trail System!

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

- Arrive at CFPA Headquarters or other agreed upon location at scheduled time.
- Assist staff and volunteer trail managers with the construction of hiking trails and trail structures.
- Perform routine maintenance duties such as brushing trails, blazing, tread repair and clearing drainage structures.
- Help maintain trail tools, vehicles and equipment for safe use.
- Work in the field, sometimes very remotely, as part of a tight-knit team.
- Camp in remote regions to undertake larger, multi-day trail improvement projects in state forests, parks, and private conservation lands.
- Work with existing trail volunteer trail teams such as chainsaw or rock crews to tackle larger trail improvement projects.
- Layout and design new trails or major relocations and flag sustainable trail routes.
- Perform tool and equipment maintenance as needed.
- Follow all CDC and State-mandated Covid-19 guidelines and protocols.

### **Benefits**

- Gain vital skills and experience for a career in outdoor recreation, conservation, or land management.
- Work in beautiful natural areas in Connecticut and develop a greater appreciation for their importance.
- Work closely with trail and land management professionals.
- Optional educational workshops in land conservation and environmental education available.
- Exposure to local conservation organizations.
- Learn tool use and safety, sustainable trail design, bridge building, rough carpentry, backcountry living, Leave-No-Trace, and leadership skills.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), uniforms, gear, and camping equipment provided.
- Assistance with Independent study or Internship credit possible.
- Weekly Educational Session about Connecticut's history, ecology, environmental resources or career development.

## Schedule

Summer Only: June 6 - August 19

Summer and Fall: June 6 - Mid October (No scheduled work August 20 - September 4)

Fall Only: September 5 - Mid October

- The normal weekly work schedule will be Monday- Friday.
- Most or all weeks will require spike camping in the field for the duration of the project.
  - If camping gear is required for spikes, please contact Alex Bradley, [abradley@ctwoodlands.org](mailto:abradley@ctwoodlands.org)
- This may be altered for required trainings or project requirements, plenty of notice will be given
- As this is a team based position members should plan to spend the entire work weeks during the season with their crew. During spike camping, arranging a day off is logistically very difficult.

## Preferred Job Skills, Abilities, and Experience

The most important qualifications for Crew Members is a positive attitude, an eagerness to learn and a willingness to work hard. Additional preferred skills include:

- Ability to work in a small, cohesive team.
- Appreciation for the natural world, conservation & outdoor recreation.
- Familiarity and/or desire to learn how to operate hand and power tools to perform trail work.
- Desire to learn the natural and cultural history of Connecticut and the role of trails in protecting these resources.
- Overnight camping experience is preferred but not necessary.
- Desire and ability to work outdoors and willingness to perform strenuous physical activity such as frequent bending, lifting, and carrying of heavy objects.
- Willingness to work in outdoor settings in inclement or high temperature weather conditions, such as rain, heat, or humidity.
- Ability to hike up to five miles daily and perform work in sometimes steep and uneven terrain.
- Ability to lift and/or carry tools and construction materials weighing up to 40 pounds.

## Compensation

The Crew Member will be paid \$490/week. Payment will be issued weekly. If personal vehicles are driven, mileage will be reimbursed at the current State of CT mileage reimbursement rate. While on spike, meals will be provided.

## Eligibility/ Application Requirements

This position is open to 18-25+ year olds. Application deadline is April 15, but we will be reviewing applications and scheduling interviews on a rolling basis. A Zoom interview will be required.

An [Online Application](#) with resume upload is REQUIRED for this position. If you have any questions, please email Alex Bradley, Trails Program Field Coordinator, at [abradley@ctwoodlands.org](mailto:abradley@ctwoodlands.org). No phone calls please.

*CFPA is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/ affirmative action for all qualified persons. CFPA does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/ or federal nondiscrimination laws.*