

Who we are:

The Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of our natural environment.

We foster a work environment that's inclusive as well as diverse, where our people can be themselves. Every idea and perspective is valued so that our culture reflects the people we serve.

Our Department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environment that goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity and increased quality of life in Tennessee. We deliver on our mission through managing regulatory programs that maintain standards for air, water and soil quality while providing assistance to businesses and communities in areas ranging from recreation to waste management. We manage the state park system and programs to inventory, interpret and protect Tennessee's rich natural, historical, and archaeological heritage.

About the Tennessee State Parks

From its beginning in 1937, Tennessee State Parks were established to protect and preserve the unique natural, cultural, and historic resources of Tennessee. The public interest has also been served by a variety of benefits for citizens and communities produced by our state park system, promoting stronger communities and healthier citizens across the state through diverse resource-based recreation while conserving the natural environment for today and tomorrow – preserving authentic Tennessee places and spaces for future generations to enjoy. As stewards of the resources in our parks, we seek to manage Tennessee's state parks in order to preserve and protect valued resources and to provide a balance of services and benefits for the enjoyment of the people.



Community Science Internship Seven Islands State Birding Park

Overview

Are you a college student focusing on a degree in Wildlife Biology, Ecology, Natural Resource Management or a related field? This internship provides students the unique opportunity to work with the staff at Seven Islands State Birding Park to manage a variety of community science projects in the park. The Community Science intern will gain experience in wildlife identification, monitoring, and management as well as data collection and volunteer coordination. It is required that the candidates receive college credit for this internship experience.

General Responsibilities

- Organize and communicate with volunteers on various projects.
- Monitor and record data on nesting birds.
- Conduct butterfly surveys for the East TN Butterfly Monitoring Network.
- Monitor stations for the Caterpillars Count Project.
- Assist in Bird Banding Sessions.
- Develop an iNaturalist project for the park.
- Maintain and update the database for each project.

Intern Qualifications and Skills:

- Excellent communication skills.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Must be able to hike at least 3 miles on variable terrain.
- Ability to handle wildlife in a safe and respectful way.
- Some familiarity with bird and butterfly species in East TN.
- Experience using data collection apps.
- Ability to work alone in the park when needed.

Scheduling is somewhat flexible, but a minimum availability of two days per week during April through mid-August is ideal. Preferred days are Wednesday and Sunday mornings.

To be considered for this unpaid internship, students need to submit their resume, cover letter, and information outlining college credit requirements to Deanna.Jones@tn.gov. Additional information regarding TDEC's internship requirements are highlighted on TDEC's website:

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/about-tdec/employment-andinternships.html>.

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State's policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person's race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.