

# Naturalist Volunteer

The Carrie Murray Nature Center (CMNC) invites responsible and adventurous individuals to apply for our outdoor education Naturalist Volunteer position. Joining the CMNC team as a volunteer provides valuable experience in teaching, leading, and learning in “Baltimore’s Backyard.” Located in west Baltimore, Gwynns Falls Leakin Park is one of the nation’s largest urban wilderness parks!

Naturalists work with the nature center to direct school classes as well as weekend birthday parties and outdoor events around the park. The primary goal of this volunteer position is to spark a sense of wonder for the natural world in both children and community members. Naturalists lead trail hikes, explain environmental facts, discuss native plants and animals, share artifacts from the local environment, and empower environmental stewards in the city.

Training, a history of the park, and an orientation of the nature center are provided. This opportunity is also available for internship credit. Being an outdoor naturalist helps our community appreciate and learn about our local, natural environments.

## OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist with environmental education programs such as field trips and birthday parties
- Assist with set-up and clean up of environmental education events
- Learn about Gwynns Falls Leakin Park and it’s natural history
- Understand how to identify local plant and animal species
- Captivate young children and build a sense of respect for our natural world
- Ensure that children have fun, safe, playful experiences in Gwynns Falls Leakin Park
- Demonstrate professional standards of communication, attitude, and appearance in every interaction with children, parents, and BCRP staff

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be at least 16 years old
- Experience working with children preferred
- Eager to learn new approaches and best practices in environmental education and teaching children
- Strong interest in nature, environmental education, environmental sciences, outdoor education, or related field
- Eager to discover and interpret local natural history
- Excited to explore the Park in all weather
- Excellent communication skills and references
- Reliable transportation
- Kind, humorous, considerate attitude always preferred!

## COMMITMENT

Applicants must be available weekday mornings from 9am-12pm and/or Saturdays.

