



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY JOB CLASS SPECIFICATION

STATE PARK NATURALIST

Job Number: 20000566

Job Code: 15730V231016

Job Group: 1500 - PARKS AND RECREATION

Job Established: 06/16/1982

Job Revised: 10/16/2023

Grade: 16 Salary (MIN - MID):

\$27,348-\$41,022 - Hourly

\$4,444.06-\$6,666.08 - 37.5 Hr. Monthly Salary

\$4,740.32-\$7,110.48 - 40 Hr. Monthly Salary

Special Entrance Rate:

NONE

NONE

NONE

PROBATIONARY PERIOD:

This job has an initial and promotional probationary period of 6 months, except as provided in KRS 18A.111.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JOB: *Characteristics of a job are general statements indicating the level of responsibility and discretion of positions in that job classification. These are not intended to be an exhaustive list.*

Coordinates the Department of Parks' interpretative programs, including natural and historical interpretation, outdoor recreation and environmental education. Coordinates with parks program services personnel and park managers in the programs that emphasize the natural, cultural, historical, and recreational attractions of the state parks. Oversees the Department's trail and land acquisition programs.; and performs other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION:

Graduate of a college or university with a bachelor's degree in outdoor recreation, park resource interpretation, environmental education, biology, forestry, botany, zoology or a related natural science.

EXPERIENCE, TRAINING, OR SKILLS:

Five years of experience as a park naturalist, park interpreter, environmental educator, or in planned outdoor recreation.

Substitute EDUCATION for EXPERIENCE:

A master's degree in outdoor recreation, park resource interpretation, environmental education, biology, forestry, botany, zoology, or a related natural science will substitute for one year of the experience.

Substitute EXPERIENCE for EDUCATION:

Experience as a park naturalist, park interpreter, environmental educator, or in planned outdoor recreation will substitute for the required college on a year-for-year basis.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (AGE, LICENSURE, REGULATION, ETC.):

NONE

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES OR RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE JOB CLASSIFICATION: *Examples of duties or responsibilities are not to be construed as describing what the duties or responsibilities of any position shall be and are not to be construed as limiting the appointing authority's ability to assign, or otherwise alter the duties and responsibilities of a position. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.*

Coordinates with parks program services staff the programs to feature the natural, scenic, and recreational attractions of state parks. Directs the Department on management practices to ensure proper utilization and care of natural resources. Develops and conducts programs which promote state park attractions. Drafts text and develops themes for interpretive exhibits and trains parks' staff in the presentation of programs, trails management, resource management, environmental education, and outdoor skills development. Provides overall planning, design, and technical assistance for the development and maintenance of park trails and scenic attractions. Writes grants and obtains funding for the Department's trail's program and other natural resource management projects. Establishes guidelines for proper trail use and provides technical assistance to other agencies as State Trails Coordinator, such as the state's Rails to Trails Programs. Approves and manages Department's trail maintenance, construction, and renovation projects. Develops resource material for public information and dissemination such as guides, brochures, and audio-visual programs. Maintains records of flora and fauna and other unique features of parks, coordinates resource management projects to ensure their protection. Promotes naturalist programs and other park features through public relations presentations. Performs site assessments, prioritizes properties and coordinates Department's land acquisitions. Drafts environmental resource management plans relating to proper stewardship of state parks resources and directs Department resource management practices. Coordinates continuing education, certification, and professional development for division staff. Assists with outdoor recreational and interpretive programming statewide. Supervises program field staff by assigning tasks and projects that relate to interpretive programs and outdoor recreational activities and oversees the completion of such activities and projects. Supervises a crew of employees performing duties in trail construction and repair. Designated as State Trails Coordinator.

UNIQUE PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Any unique physical requirements necessary to perform the duties of a specific position will be listed on the individual position description, if applicable.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS: *Incumbents in the job will typically perform their job duties under these conditions.*

Work is performed in both an office and field setting. Frequent statewide travel is required and extensive contact with the public is required. May have to traverse steep slopes and access remote areas when inspecting trails and park lands.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Upon employment, employees in this job classification may be required to maintain a valid driver's license and may be required to drive a licensed vehicle. This status may be necessary for the length of time in this job classification. If this is necessary, it will be listed in the specific position description for the position at issue. Applicants and employees in this job classification may be required to submit to a drug- screening test and background check. Applicants and employees in positions which perform job duties that may require contact with offenders in the custody or supervision of the Department of Corrections or with youth in the care, custody, or supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice must meet qualifications pursuant to the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act, 28 C.F.R.115.17 and 115.317.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy or related medical condition, marital or familial status, ancestry, political affiliation, genetic information, or veteran status in accordance with state and federal laws.