Live in Maine and join a team of energetic outdoor professionals looking to share their love of the outdoors and sciences to people of all ages and backgrounds. We are looking for dedicated educators who truly enjoy exploring the natural world and the importance of community in our human existence.

Lakeside Classroom Field Teacher-Job Details

Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center is seeking qualified, high-energy individuals to work in our Lakeside Classroom. The mission of the University of Maine 4-H Center in Bryant Pond is to educate and inspire people of all ages and backgrounds toward social, economic, and environmental sustainability and conservation through affordable, experiential learning. Our campus is nestled on the shores of Lake Christopher in Bryant Pond, Maine with 160 acres of forest and mountain trails leading to remote campsites, streams, ponds, wetlands, and a mountain summit.

Candidates will be considered for any combination of the three seasons; spring, summer or fall. A seven-month Field Teacher would work during the summer at Bryant Pond as a counselor in the summer camp program leading ecology, survival, arts, hunter safety or adventure programming. In the spring and fall, a seven-month Field Teacher would support the Lakeside Classroom residential school program. This program focuses on teaching environmental education and teambuilding to students, kindergarten through college. We reach over 3,000 school children in our year-round Lakeside Classroom programs in 2016. We also work with over 1,000 youth in our open enrollment summer camp. The seven-month positions run late April-mid November, with limited opportunity for winter extensions in afterschool and expeditionary roles.

The primary responsibility of Field Teachers is to provide students with high quality programming in ecology, teambuilding, challenge course/climbing wall, and outdoor skills. Group management and team building skills are an important part of this position, and make up to 70% of what we do.

The Field Teacher position at Bryant Pond 4-H Center’s Lakeside Classroom is roughly based on a five-day workweek starting Monday morning and ending before 6:00 pm on Friday. Field Teachers may be asked to work occasional weekends on a rotating basis for specialty programs and will be compensated for extra days. On nights when participants are staying over, Field Teachers will take turns monitoring the bunkhouses until around 9:00pm. The Director on Duty and Medic are on-call after evening meds each night. Most weeks will consist of two or three overnight programs. This job demands a great deal of energy, flexibility and commitment; field teachers often plan and prepare lessons outside of the regular workday.

Room and board are provided to Lakeside Classroom Field Teachers. Staff live in rustic cabins that include electricity and are heated by woodstoves. Shower facilities, kitchen, bathrooms, internet and laundry service are available in the Lakeside Lodge, a short two-minute walk from staff housing. Being prepared for sleeping in cool weather is advised.

Program staff at Bryant Pond 4-H Center work and live in a very close community and are expected to contribute to the community through sharing in chores, and maintaining a commitment to a positive and collegial work environment. Those living on campus are expected to keep up with the chores associated with shared living spaces including the bathrooms and kitchen. While programs are in session, all food will be prepared and provided by our kitchen staff (please inquire about food needs). While off duty, staff members are welcome to use the kitchen facilities to prepare personal food or eat leftovers out of the staff refrigerator.

Although the main responsibility of a Field Teacher is to work directly with participants teaching lessons, work in other areas may be required. Staff may be asked to help with facility upkeep and maintenance, office work, building projects, gardening, outreach, and lesson planning. Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center is dedicated to providing support and high quality training to its Field Teachers. Staff training happens three times within a seven-month season. Training consists of in-depth teambuilding, low/high challenge course, and climbing wall facilitation skills, concepts of ecology, engineering lessons, outdoor-skills such as canoeing, hiking, shooting sports, survival. We also cover Bryant Pond policies, procedures, mission and vision. Lifeguard, Maine State Trip Leader, 4-H Shooting Sports and Wilderness First Aid Training are available for staff in some seasons at free or discounted rates. Rarely, when programming needs arise, staff may be asked to help UMaine Extension at the other Maine 4-H Centers at Tanglewood and Blueberry Cove.

nicolette.gagnon@maine.edu
207-890-4536

UMaine Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Position Description:
Lakeside Classroom Field Teacher

Responsibilities:

- Care for the health, safety and well being of all campers/students/chaperones
- Manage risk associated with experiential learning opportunities
- Teach and lead groups of 8-15 students independently once comfortable with lessons and schedule for day and overnight groups
- Contribute ideas for continual development of programs and to strengthen our teaching team
- Help in all aspects of the program including; teaching, program design/scheduling, general camp chores, cleaning and kitchen duties to support the campus community
- Foster and role model interpersonal relationships that reflect courtesy, civility and mutual respect
- Full-time work, Monday morning through Friday afternoon with rotating night time and weekend responsibilities

Preferred qualifications include:

- Degree in environmental science, education, adventure education, childcare, or a willingness to learn and self-teach new skills
- First Aid and CPR training, WFA/WFR is preferred (WFA training offered in June)
- Commitment to working long days with participants in a hands-on and high energy setting
- Experience educating and managing children, kindergarten-12th grade in an outdoor setting as well as the confidence to lead adult groups
- Experience facilitating teambuilding initiatives, as well as low and high challenge course activities
- Understanding of basic ecological concepts and a general love of the outdoors
- A commitment to sustainability
- Ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions while managing the needs of all participants
- Willingness to be flexible and adapt your energy to the needs of the program and participants
- Commitment to working collectively as a part of a hard-working, supportive and positive team
- Experience with camp or outdoor program routines and schedules (including campfire)
- Ability to hike 5-8 miles with a 40lb pack, teach canoeing skills, and comfortably lift 50+ lbs
- Demonstrates a professional appearance and attitude
- Interest that include: Initiative Games/Challenges, High Ropes Courses, Archery, Primitive Survival Skills, Fishing, Hiking, Canoeing, Hunting, Backpack/Canoe Expeditions, Indoor Rock Climbing, Forest Ecology, Geology, Gardening and Farm Animals, Engineering, and Science in general.

* Successful candidates must complete a health screening and appropriate background checks.

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Salary and Benefits:
Field Teachers are salaried employees and are paid on a monthly basis. First season salary is $320/wk for qualifying applicants. Director on Duty roles are available to returning staff (more responsibility/increased salary). Benefits include housing, food, laundry, Internet access, and backcountry equipment usage. Bryant Pond can be used as a college internship site in any season. Unfortunately Field Staff are not permitted to have pets on the University of Maine Bryant Pond campus.

Please send a cover letter, resume, and three reference contacts (phone and email) to Nikko Gagnon, Program Coordinator at nicolette.gagnon@maine.edu

Spring 2018 Staff Training Start Date: 8:00am Monday, April 9th
*This year we will also be considering applicants for a later spring start, please contact for details

Job Location:
Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center is located in Bryant Pond, Maine and is a short drive to the beautiful White Mountain National Forest and the Rangeley Lakes area. The local area provides many opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts including rock climbing, backpacking, hunting and fishing, canoeing and a large winter ski and sport industry. Portland, Maine’s largest city is only an hour’s drive with live music, great food, and shopping.