

Teacher Naturalist

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, PO Box 598, Boylston MA 01505, (508) 869-6111

Direct Manager:	Manager of Youth Education		
Department/Group:	Education	Job Category:	Seasonal Part-time Non-exempt Multiple vacancies
Location:	Boylston, MA	Travel Required:	No
Salary or Rate Range:	\$17.25-\$17.77/hour	Contact	https://nebg.isolvedhire.com/jobs/
Date posted:		Posting Expires:	May 2024

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill believes diversity in nature promotes a healthy, vigorous garden. We believe that diversity among our staff promotes a healthy work environment and a vigorous organization. We recruit, employ, train, compensate and promote regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, veteran status, and other protected status as required by applicable law. We believe in diversity of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, national origin, ability, and all the other traits that make us unique. New England is an equal opportunity employer.

NEBG at Tower Hill does not require its staff to be vaccinated for Covid-19, but we urge everyone to receive an updated dose as they become available to protect themselves and each other.

Teacher Naturalists are expected to carry out the responsibilities of the job in ways that support NEBG at TH's mission and to its commitment to creating a diverse and welcoming organization.

- Being welcoming to all staff and the public
- Be respectful of staff differences and preferences
- Use gender neutral communication styles
- Respect everyone's pronouns
- Develop and support a culture within the department that recognizes and supports NEBG at TH's IDEA initiatives.

Position Overview

Are you passionate about nature and enjoy working with children? Share your passion with students and families and join our team! Under the direction of the Manager of Youth Education, Teacher Naturalists assist in the delivery of a variety of mission-related learning experiences for families and children in grades PreK through 12. These programs include school field trips, youth group programs, scout programs, and birthday parties. Teacher Naturalists are part of a dynamic, creative team that are responsible for leading children and families in inquiry-based outdoor exploration using hands-on activities, songs, games, stories, and projects. This position works on an as needed basis with a flexible schedule. We are hiring team members for both weekday and/or weekend availability. Weekday programs include field trips and scout programs. Weekend programs include birthday parties, scout programs, and youth group programs.

Teacher Naturalist

Responsibilities

- Learn and deliver a set curriculum of inquiry-based lessons and activities focused on plants, botany, gardening, and ecology for PreK-12 school and community groups.
- Lead field trips, scout programs, and youth group workshops with provided curriculums that meet state education standards or badge requirements.
- Lead birthday parties focused on plants, animals, and mythical creatures.
- Monitor groups in all types of indoor and outdoor environments and be mindful of the safety and welfare of all participants and fellow staff.
- Set up and break down program materials and supplies.
- Attend seasonal staff trainings and meetings as needed.
- Work collaboratively with members of the Education team and other NEBG departments.

Qualifications

- Basic classroom management skills that are effective in engaging and educating diverse learners in grades PreK-12.
- Ability to learn and teach a provided curriculum.
- Demonstrated enthusiasm for working with young audiences and leading programs focused on environmental science topics.
- Ability to create a positive, safe, and fun learning environment.
- Ability to present information at the appropriate age and grade level of the group.
- Adaptable and flexible; can shift gears comfortably and embrace change.
- Ability to use clear, effective written and spoken communication.
- Must have own transportation to the Garden.

Schedule

This position is on an as needed basis with varying opportunities throughout the year – a majority of which being during field trip season. Spring field trip season runs from April to mid-June. Fall field trip season runs from late September to mid-November. Shifts are self-selected based on individual availability. A flexible schedule is desired with the ability to work shifts during the week and/or on weekends and evenings.

Education and Experience

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Minimum of one year of teaching experience in a formal or informal setting.
- Experience working with one or more of the following: preschool, elementary, middle, or high school students, scout groups, youth groups, families.
- Experience teaching in an outdoor or camp setting a plus.
- Experience learning and delivering a provided curriculum.

Physical Demands / Working Conditions:

This job works primarily outdoors in all types of weather conditions with occasional work indoors in a classroom setting.

- Must be able to lift 25 pounds and work outdoors in all seasonal extremes.
- Must be able to bend, kneel, stand, and walk for 90-minutes at a time and to navigate uneven grounds and stairs evenly.

Teacher Naturalist

- Must be able to operate basic office communications equipment, including radios.
- Must be able to send and receive emails and use scheduling software.

Note: Duties described above, other duties, and physical demands have been identified as essential functions as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Safety

- Works with an awareness of surroundings and vigilant to any possible threat to the safety of staff and the public, or to NEBG at TH property. Ensure all concerns are reported promptly.
- Reports all accidents and injuries immediately to an immediate supervisor and/or Chief Financial & Operations Officer, or designee.
- Complies with provisions of the current Employee Handbook, all published personnel policies, and the requirements of the job description.