

Buena Vista County, IA
Conservation Board
Naturalist II

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Under general direction of the Director and Naturalist I, the full-Time Naturalist II with the Buena Vista County Conservation Board, plans, develops, coordinates, and presents environmental education and interpretive programs for schools, youth and adult groups and the public; develops related written and audio visual and display materials and performs related duties as required.

DUTIES

1. Develop, plan, and conduct environmental education programs.
2. Maintains environmental education materials and equipment.
3. Provides care to live education animals.
4. Provides resource information, materials and equipment to teachers, youth and adult leaders, service groups, the public and other organizations.
5. Develop and implement news releases, flyers, brochures, and website updates.
6. Assist in providing training for student interns and volunteers.
7. Assist in scheduling activities and events.
8. Assist in preparing, implementing, conducting, and periodically reviewing a long-term environmental education plan for the county.
9. Assist in developing grant and project proposals in relation to environmental education.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**KNOWLEDGE**

1. **Customer and Personal Service** - Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services- this includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.
2. **Biology** - Knowledge of plant and animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.
3. **Recreation History**- Knowledge of natural and cultural history and recreation, including basic field identification and natural history of native plants and animals; knowledge of ecological principles.
4. **Outdoor Recreation**- Knowledge of general outdoor recreation skills including canoeing, backpacking, biking, hiking, orienteering, archery, and firearms safety.
5. **Communications and Media** - Knowledge of media production, communication, and dissemination techniques and methods- this includes alternative ways to inform and entertain via written, oral, and visual media.

6. **Education and Training** - Knowledge of principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.

SKILLS

1. **Speaking** - Talking to others to convey information effectively.
2. **Active Listening** - Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
3. **Critical Thinking** - Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems.
4. **Social Perceptiveness** - Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they do.
5. **Reading Comprehension** - Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
6. **Writing** - Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.

ABILITIES

1. **Oral Expression** - The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.
2. **Oral Comprehension** - The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
3. **Speech Clarity** - The ability to speak clearly so others can understand you.
4. **Speech Recognition** - The ability to identify and understand the speech of another person.
5. **Problem Sensitivity** - The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong (this ability does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem).
6. **Emergency Management**- The ability to manage emergency situations.

MINIMUM EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE

1. Must be at least 18 years of age
2. Have a valid Driver's License
3. Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in natural resources, outdoor recreation, or a related natural science field preferred
4. CPR certification, Fish Iowa, NASP, Hunter Education Instructor, Iowa DNR Canoe/Kayak School, and Raptor Certification for Education training is required within one year of hire.
5. NWCG/I-Fire wildland fire interest and/or training is preferred.
6. The substitution of experience in natural resource work for the education requirement is permissible- or any equivalent combination of education, training,

and experience to provide the requisite knowledge, skills, and ability for this position.

WORK ENVIRONMENT/PHYSICAL DEMANDS SUMMARY

1. The employee is regularly required to sit for extended periods of time, talk, listen and hear, frequently required to use repetitive hand motion, stand, walk, reach, or bend
2. Lift, carry, push and/or pull items weighing up to 50 pounds.
3. Hear and speak to exchange information in person and on the telephone.
4. The employee will regularly operate a variety of automated office machines and equipment, including, but not limited to: computer (Microsoft, Gmail, and Canva programs), calculator, copier, and telephone.
5. See to read a variety of materials.
6. Climb a stepstool/ladder to reach above shoulders for placement of materials weighing up to 20 pounds.
7. Work in a variety of conditions in indoor and outdoor settings, including exposure to extremes in temperature and humidity, pollen, and bugs.

This job requires the ability to perform the essential functions contained in this description. These include, but are not limited to, the requirements listed above, other duties and functions may be assigned. Reasonable accommodations will be made for otherwise qualified applicants unable to fulfill one or more of these requirements.

WAGE AND BENEFITS

Starting wage is \$25.00/hour with increase after probationary period. Standard county benefits include paid single health insurance, competitive family insurance, vision, dental, IPERS, sick leave, and paid holidays.

Applicant may be subject to post offer, pre-employment drug and physical testing.

TO APPLY: Resume, cover letter, and standard county application are required.

Applications and full job description is available online at <https://buenvistacounty.iowa.gov/> or at the BVCCB Office.

SUBMIT APPLICATION PACKET TO

Director
Buena Vista County Conservation
377 440th Street
Peterson, Iowa 51047
Or email to: office@bvcountyparks.com

DEADLINE Application must be received by **April 18th, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.**

Buena Vista County is an equal opportunity employer.

Job description reviewed and approved by the BVCCB on 03/12/25