Naturalist Position Description

The Aldo Leopold Nature Center seeks qualified applicants for several naturalist positions for spring school-year programs (April – early June) and summer camp programs (early June – late August).

Time Commitment:

- **Spring (May – early June):** programs run primarily from 8:30am - 4:00pm Monday – Friday, with occasional evening and weekends. Availability during these times is variable and will be negotiated at the time of the interview.
- **Summer (early June – late August):** programs run 9am – 12pm and 1 – 4pm Monday – Friday. Candidates must be available Monday – Friday mornings and/or Monday – Friday afternoons from early June – late August, with occasional evening and weekend hours.
- Preference will be given to candidates that can work both spring and summer seasons.

Responsibilities:
The primary responsibility of this position is the planning and delivery of inquiry-based, experiential nature studies programs for summer camp participants (ages 2 – 16), but also includes school and after-school program groups. Additionally, naturalists work with the Nature Center’s other education professionals to plan and conduct programming for preschool and scout groups, home school students, weekend and evening programs for the general public, birthday programs, overnights and special events. An extension for the fall season may be possible. Examples and types of school year program and summer camp program offerings can be viewed on our website [http://www.naturenet.com/alnc/trip.htm](http://www.naturenet.com/alnc/trip.htm) or [http://www.naturenet.com/alnc/summcamp.html](http://www.naturenet.com/alnc/summcamp.html).

Qualifications:

- BA or BS in environmental education, education, natural science or closely related field.
- Experience working with pre-school and school age children in both formal and non-formal education settings.
- Respect, concern and excitement for the natural environment and a demonstrated ability to share that excitement with others.
- Knowledge of regional flora and fauna
- Candidates with experience in early childhood education are encouraged to apply to lead programs on Tuesday – Friday mornings for 2 – 3 year olds.
- Spanish language skills preferred, but not required.

Position Requirements:

- Ability to commit to available time periods for the duration of the spring/summer as listed above.
- Aldo Leopold Nature Center operates two sites: Monona, WI and Black Earth, WI. Candidates must be willing to travel and teach at either location.
- Ideal candidates must be able to attend staff training session (week of June 4 – 8).
- Training and certification in Standard First Aid and CPR is required and provided at staff training. Wilderness First Aid and Lifeguard certifications (at a minimum) are required for staff leading summer programs involving off-site trips.

Personal Qualities:
The successful candidate must be able to manage their schedule and work well in a team environment with other staff. Flexibility, the ability to problem solve, and a sense of humor a must.
Compensation:
Pay is determined at the time of hire and is dependent upon background and experience. Naturalists are paid per program taught. Starting pay is $26 per 1.5 hour program and increased accordingly for longer programs (summer camps).

To Apply:
Send cover letter, resume and list of 3 references to:
Virginia Wiggen
Nature Center Director
Aldo Leopold Nature Center
300 Femrite Drive, Monona WI  53716
Email applications are encouraged at education@naturenet.com.

Application materials are accepted until April 26, 2012. The ideal start date for the position is early May.