



**Department of Environment and Conservation
Tennessee State Parks and Conservation
Seasonal Interpreter/Recreator (SIR)
Salary: \$9.97-\$15.00/HR; Approximately 37.5 Hour Week
Dates: March – August, 2019; Housing May Be Available**

About the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)

The department is responsible for:

- Safeguarding the health and safety of Tennessee citizens from environmental hazards;
- Protecting and improving the quality of Tennessee's land, air, and water, and
- Managing the system of 56 Tennessee State Parks and 85 Natural Areas

TDEC has approximately 2,900 employees working across Tennessee supported by a total budget of more than \$300 million with funding from dedicated fees and state parks revenue, federal sources, and the state general fund. The department is the chief environmental and natural resource regulatory agency in Tennessee with delegated responsibility from the U.S. EPA to regulate sources of air pollution, radiological health issues, solid and hazardous waste, underground storage tanks, water pollution, water supply, and groundwater pollution. TDEC has eight (8) regional offices across the state serving as the primary point of contact for their respective regions.

Summary & Distinguishing Features

Youth and Family Program Seasonal Interpreter/Recreators (SIRs) staff assist with all State Parks' preexisting Junior Ranger, Spirit of America and Run Club programs when requested, providing training, conducting educational outreach and supporting youth and family program initiatives. SIRs work with schools, community groups and other organizations to promote the Junior Ranger program through interpretive experiences. Youth and Family Program SIRs also promote and administratively support the Tennessee State Parks Passport program. Extensive travel is required. Individuals will be selected to work primarily on either the Junior Ranger Team or Run Club Team divisions, with cross-training opportunities available.

Duties and Essential Functions

Seasonal Interpreter/Recreators (SIRs) primary responsibilities include:

- Support the Tennessee State Parks' (TSP) youth program initiatives
- Support the Run Club and outdoor program initiatives
- Provide interpretive programs
- General administrative responsibilities, such writing reports, maintaining records, and scheduling, delegating and executing work assignments.

Competencies

- Personality and communication skills conducive to work in public service required
- Candidate must be a self-starter and able to complete tasks with minimal supervision
- Sound knowledge or willingness to learn about the natural and cultural history of Tennessee
- Strong writing skills to organize park information, complete reports, generate interpretive program outlines and respond to requests for park information
- Desirable but not required certifications: CPR, Advanced First Aid, or First Responder
- Good physical condition: ability to extensive hiking, climbing and carrying 20 pounds or more; ability to perform responsibly under emergency situations
- Experienced working with children
- Boater safety license must be completed within one month of hire

Qualifications

The applicant must be a college junior by credit hours working toward an undergraduate degree in general life sciences, forestry, wildlife, geology, geography, history, anthropology/archaeology, environmental science, park administration, natural resource-based recreation, etc. Coursework in outdoor leadership and/or wilderness skills is supportive and desirable but not mandatory. If selected for an interview, the applicant is required to have a copy of his current college/university transcript and a completed State of Tennessee employment application. Additionally, selected candidates must pass a criminal background check. A valid vehicle operator license is required.

All interested candidates should submit via email a resume and cover letter to:

Barbara L. McKeever, Interpretive Specialist
Junior Ranger Program Coordinator
Barbara.McKeever@tn.gov
(615) 532-0015

For additional information contact:
Laura Franklin, Program Manager
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
Tennessee State Parks
312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, 2nd Floor
Nashville, TN, 37243
Laura.Franklin@tn.gov

TDEC is an AA/EEO/ADA equal opportunity employer.