Summer Conservation Intern at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center

Position Summary: The summer intern will contribute to conservation and outreach work around the Grange Insurance Audubon center. In particular, the intern will work on the “gardening for birds” project, helping to plant and maintain a hummingbird garden as well as other native gardens around the center and interpreting for the public. The applicant must be highly motivated in engaging the public. The applicant will also be a ‘roving naturalist’, assisting with turtle care, assisting with weekly programming for young children and adults on a variety of nature topics, and working with volunteers with conservation events including river clean ups and invasive species removal. Applicant will be provided with training in: plant and bird identification, educational program development, gardening skills and tool use, leading educational programs, and professional development such as cover letter or CV mentorship. Applicant will work closely with center conservation manager and learn about various conservation programs.

Essential Functions:
- Help maintain and plant native gardens on site as part of the “gardening for birds” initiative.
- Assist with and lead programming of daily center activities (topics can vary based on personal interest).
- Care for center animals (turtles).
- Maintain garden tools and other equipment.
- Create social media posts and videos demonstrating native plant gardening and other conservation activities.
- Be physically able to accompany program attendees to any program activities.
- Be a representative of Audubon when dealing with visitors and program attendees.
- May occasionally fill in at front desk or other duties as required.

Desired Qualifications and Experience: (e.g., education, training, experience, licenses and skills)
Interest or experience in native plants, gardening, or backyard habitat. Interest in birds a plus.
Interest or experience in environmental education, interpretation or outreach.
Interest or experience in caring for reptiles or other small animals.
Desire to educate others, with an emphasis on young people, about conservation and the natural world.
Must be in active pursuit of a college degree in a related field to internship focus (biology, environmental science, etc.), two or more years of coursework preferred.
Willingness to spend periods of time outside in varied weather conditions.
Possess the necessary communication and motivational skills to lead small groups.
Experience teaching or working with diverse audiences.
High Degree of personal initiative, flexibility, and energy.
Willingness to submit to a criminal history background check.
Available to work Saturdays and evenings.

Working Environment:
This paid internship is a 3 month commitment for summer 2021, May 17th-August 20th. Exact start and end date negotiable. Part time and full time position both may be available- please state your preference in your cover letter. Work days would be scheduled between Tuesday-Sunday, either 9:00am to 4:30pm or 11-7pm (depending on programming needs). Exact days worked would vary week to week (but scheduled well in advance).

Grange Insurance Audubon Center is located in beautiful downtown Columbus in the Scioto Audubon Metro Park. This position will have a dedicated workspace with shared computer. They will report to the Conservation Manager and work closely with the Educator Coordinator, Center Director, staff, and volunteers of GIAC.

If interested, send resume and cover letter to: Rebecca Swab, Conservation Manager
614-545-5486
Rebecca.Swab@audubon.org
Grange Insurance Audubon Center 505 W. Whittier St. Columbus, Ohio 4321