



**Environmental Interpreter
Position
2019**

The Ridges is hiring a part-time Environmental Interpreter to assist in developing and teaching education programs plus designing interpretive signs and other interpretive media for the nature center and trails. This position will have an emphasis on developing middle & high school student programming. It is 32 hours a week, year-round, starting in June 2019.

The Ridges Sanctuary is named for its distinctive topography – a series of 30 ridges and swales formed by the movement of Lake Michigan over the past 1,100 years. This ridge-swale complex provides a wide range of habitats, from open beach to densely shaded conifer forest. Nearly 500 different species of plants, including 25 species of native orchids, populate these varied habitats which are also home to over 60 species of breeding birds and 12 threatened or endangered species, including the federally endangered Hine’s Emerald dragonfly.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

Education Programs

- Develop and teach seasonal education programs for children, adults and families.
- Lead nature hikes teaching visitors about The Ridges
- Create and lead programs for special needs groups

- Develop environmental outdoor experiences for middle school and high school age students – canoeing trips, citizen monitoring programs, etc.
- Assist with group tours and school groups as needed.
- Assist with training volunteers on leading hikes, visitor service experiences, education programs, etc.

Interpretive Exhibits, Signage & Brochures - emphasizing the necessity to connect to special needs visitors.

- Create hands-on learning experiences indoors and along The Ridges boardwalk
- Design interpretive signs for the center, boardwalk, historic range light and trails
- Develop brochures and other media to enhance the visitor learning experiences

Administration

- Meet with staff on a regular basis to share program ideas, collaborate on programs and events, etc.
- Help answer incoming phone calls.
- Interact with visitors and volunteers daily to answer questions about The Ridges, the Nature Center and Door County.
- Prepare program reports as needed

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities

- At minimum, an undergraduate degree in environmental interpretation, environmental education, or related field
- Experience in developing and delivering environmental education programs for all ages and abilities – with an emphasis on middle school experiences
- Energetic and enthusiastic personality to help motivate visitors and collaborate with co-workers
- Knowledge of interpretation skills and developing interpretive media
- Knowledge of local natural history preferred
- Excellent communication skills for all ages
- Withstand the physical demands of work which involves some lifting, carrying, bending and hiking across uneven terrain
- Must pass a criminal background check

Other Duties

- Other duties as identified.

How to Apply

Please email a cover letter and resume electronically to steve@ridgessanctuary.org with the subject line “Environmental Interpreter”. Resumes will be accepted until position is filled.