



## 2017 Summer Day Camp, Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Program

Are you interested in environmental education, working with kids, honing your naturalist skills, and spending your summer outdoors? Then volunteer for Green Mountain Audubon's CIT Program! You will gain hands-on work experience and build your resume, all while experiencing the fun and adventure of summer camp!

Audubon CITs will work alongside our camp counselors—experienced naturalists and educators—to deliver a high-quality, hands-on program of nature immersion and outdoor activities for 3- to 12-year-olds. We want to give CITs an opportunity to explore their interests in outdoor education and conservation, plus give them the skills and experience to launch towards an environmental or teaching career. We hope our CITs will become the next generation of Audubon camp counselors, naturalist educators, and conservation biologists!

### Who can apply?

The CIT program is open to high school students 14 to 18 years old. CITs must commit to a minimum of 2 weeks of camp (between June 26 and August 18, 2017). All CITs must also attend a two-day, training session on Thursday and Friday June 22-23 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### Is the CIT program right for you?

We are looking for people with interests in:

- Outdoor/environmental education
- Wildlife and habitat conservation
- Nature awareness, animal tracking, and wilderness living skills
- Nature-based crafts, art, and tool-making
- Teaching and mentoring younger kids
- Building teamwork and leadership skills

Past experience attending Audubon camp or another outdoor camp is a plus, but not required.

### Two options for our CITs

CITs can choose to work at Preschool Nature Camp, Ecology Day Camp, or a combination of both:

#### (1) Preschool Nature Camp CIT

Preschool Nature Camp offers a half-day of outdoor play and exploration to campers 3 to 5 years old, with both morning and afternoon sessions. Our time is filled with stories, nature walks, puppet shows, games, and full-sensory immersion in the natural world.

**CIT hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (camp sessions 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.)**

***Half-day option (8:30-12:30 or 12:30-4:15) but preference given to full-day applicants***

#### (2) Ecology Day Camp CIT

Ecology Day Camp's full-day program runs wild around the forests, brooks, and ponds of the Green Mountain Audubon Center. Each week of camp focuses on a different theme, but all campers will get a chance to search for wildlife, make crafts, go on hikes, and hone their nature awareness skills while exploring the most magical places at Audubon. Campers age 6 to 12.

**CIT hours: 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (camp session runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)**

See the Day Camp Brochure (available at <http://vt.audubon.org/camp>) for a description of each camp session and the weekly camp themes.

### **CIT duties**

Your first week as a CIT will be a chance to observe the camp in action and work with counselors behind-the-scenes to set the goals and schedule for each day of camp. You'll be expected to assist in gathering materials and setting up camp activities, providing instructional support to counselors, and making sure all campers are happy and safe. Your two-day training session will lay the groundwork for this week.

By your second week, you will be invited to take a more active role in all aspects of camp. This could mean leading an opening circle, teaching a game or craft, or reading a story to the campers. The camp counselors and camp director will serve as a resource and support system for you as you build your natural history knowledge and repertoire of camp games and activities.

### **About our camp location**

Ecology Day Camp and Preschool Nature Camp take place on the 255 acres of the Green Mountain Audubon Center in Huntington, Vermont. Our land borders the Huntington River and includes beaver ponds, cattail marsh, a maple sugarbush, a brook, and views of Mount Mansfield and Camel's Hump from the top of Lookout Rock. It's a magical place to work and explore.

### **Application process**

To apply for a CIT position, fill out the form available at: <http://vt.audubon.org/cit>

Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received, beginning on February 1st (you can send yours in before then—this just means that we'll hold onto it until February 1 for the first round of review). Suitable candidates will be invited to a brief phone interview with the Camp Director to discuss their experience and interest in the CIT program, plus to confirm their dates. Apply early to get your preferred dates—spaces are limited!

Final application deadline is May 31, 2017, but positions may fill before that time.

### **Questions?**

For more information, please contact Emily Kaplita at [avamericorps@gmail.com](mailto:avamericorps@gmail.com) or (802) 434-3068.

We hope to see you this summer!