



# Audubon | VERMONT

## Afterschool Nature Mentor Internship

### Location

Green Mountain Audubon Center (GMAC) in Huntington or at a school or afterschool facility itself. The GMAC is Vermont's longest-running environmental education center, connecting people to nature for the past 50 years. It is conveniently located between Burlington and Montpelier. The GMAC's 255 acres are an ideal outdoor classroom with forests, ponds, meadows, and the Huntington River all within walking distance.

### About Audubon

The National Audubon Society is dedicated to protecting birds and other wildlife and the habitat that supports them. Audubon's mission is to engage people in bird conservation on a hemispheric scale through science, policy, education, and on-the-ground conservation action. Learn more at <http://vt.audubon.org/>

### Position Summary

For those interested in environmental education, GMAC provides students and graduates an unpaid internship. Gain practical experience leading students afterschool, in non-traditional nature immersion and exploration while working directly with GMAC's team of professional Teacher/Naturalists. We partner with local schools and afterschool programs to either bring nature education to their site and neighborhood or to bring them to our Center in Huntington.

These programs occur once/week and are designed to create small groups that meet regularly with adult supervision, to make connections to each other, the outdoors, and you.

All seasonal interns will gain experience and/or knowledge in:

- Local natural history, teaching and public speaking expertise, program planning experience, and research skills;
- Leading and co-leading small groups of students through seasonal exploration and discovery;
- Connecting kids with nature through the arts of questioning, storytelling, and role-modeling interest and empathy towards all living things.
- Creating and maintaining nature and environmental education materials for on- and off-site use.
- Working closely with staff to effectively develop and deliver programs in-line with GMAC operations.

**Each intern will work with the Education Coordinator and Teacher/Naturalist to develop their skills as a mentor and learn what it take to help build a connection to nature with another individual.**

### Schedule

Programs occur afterschool (starting around 2:30-4:30 and ending around 5-5:30, depending on the site) Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Interns must be able to **commit to 1-2 days per week** (ex: every Tuesday) and must be available to be with their students on those days. Candidates must have reliable transportation to/from the site, if not, potential arrangements might be made for the correct candidate to help them get to their site. We will also ask mentors to spend time with Audubon Staff developing nature connection and outdoor education skills through reading and discussion. Mentors will be responsible for writing about their experience throughout the program to be shared on our website.

### Qualifications and Experience

- You fit into one or more of these categories:

- Currently enrolled in an environmental or education program
- Have taken courses that focus on conservation, environmental education, biology, natural history, or a major in education with an interest in alternative forms of education
- Have previous related experience in outdoor education
- Interest in connecting people to nature and developing your own natural history, conservation, and nature mentoring skills.
- Desire to teach nature-based programming in an outdoor setting, in all weather.

**To Apply**

Please send a cover letter and resume to Debbie Archer, Education Program Coordinator. Applications will be reviewed as they are received, until the positions are filled. [darcher@audubon.org](mailto:darcher@audubon.org) ; 802-434-3068