

## **Environmental Education Internship with the N.C. Coastal Federation & Hammocks Beach State Park**

With more than 320 miles of ocean beaches and 4,200 miles of shorelines around our coastal sounds, rivers and creeks, the coast of North Carolina is one of the largest, most productive and spectacular areas in the nation. The N.C. Coastal Federation ([www.nccoast.org](http://www.nccoast.org)) is the state's only non-profit organization focused exclusively on coastal habitat restoration and preservation, education and advocacy.

Hammocks Beach State Park is one of the hidden gems in the North Carolina State Park system. Consisting of over 300 acres on the Mainland and four islands the park offers a wide variety of habitats, wildlife, and scenery. Bear Island is one of North Carolina's undeveloped barrier islands and offers 4 miles of beach to enjoy and explore. The park offers a seasonal passenger ferry over to the island. People can camp, hike the beach front, collect unique shells and other beach findings that have washed up, or just enjoy the scenery. Bear Island is also the nesting grounds to a very unique summer visitor- the loggerhead sea turtle.

**Project Objective:** The objective of this internship is to provide hands-on experiences through interpretation and education programs and to encourage a greater understanding of our natural resources and environmental stewardship.

**Location:** Hammocks Beach State Park, Swansboro, NC 28584

**Dates:** End of May – Mid August

**Work Schedule:** This is an unpaid internship. You will be required to work 5 five days a week (40 hours) through the length of the internship. In most cases the intern will work alone. Schedules can be flexible and will be discussed further upon acceptance of the internship.

### **PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Must be self-motivated and be able to take direction from park and federation staff. Intern must be able to work independently and complete programs/projects successfully.
- Demonstrate positive teamwork skills and maintain clear verbal and written communication with staff.
- Must be able to speak clearly and be comfortable with public speaking with the general public.
- Must be able to work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions on land and in water.

### **PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Assist the Lead Interpretation & Education (I&E) Ranger and other park and Coastal Federation staff with interpretation and education programs as well as other daily park operations.
- Become familiar with programming and the equipment and artifacts used for the environmental education programs.
- Develop and schedule daily interpretation and education programs and activities.
- Maintain daily attendance program numbers and record weekly in state park's database.
- Request program supplies in a timely manner to the Lead I&E Ranger.
- Be a positive role model and representative of North Carolina State Parks and the N.C. Coastal Federation at all times when conducting public programs.
- Practice proper safety procedures at all times and report any safety concerns immediately to park and federation staff.

- Maintain program equipment and artifacts through proper cleaning and storage after use.
- Keep workshop, office, and other shared common areas clean.
- Conduct monthly inventory of programming supplies and materials.
- Researching, becoming familiar with, helping create and teach summer programs and activities to day campers and students with focuses on coastal ecology and water quality.

**Qualifications:**

- Academic Majors Desired: Education, Biology, Natural Resource Management, Wildlife, Coastal Ecology, or similar majors.
- Must possess valid driver license.
- The individual must enjoy and be willing to work with people of varied backgrounds and ages in a variety of outdoor settings. He/she must have the ability to translate knowledge of ecology and coastal issues into basic terms and engaging activities. He/she must have an interest in teaching students of all ages. Willingness and enthusiasm to work as a team member or independently in a variety of situations with diverse audiences is critical. Professional appearance (while working outdoors) is required. Must be willing to work in hot and humid weather, which is common outdoors during coastal summers.

**Resources Available to Intern:** There is free on-site housing provided on Bear Island where the intern has the option to live. (Barracks facility has 6 double-occupancy bedrooms, full kitchen, bathroom and living room area). Transportation to and from Bear Island via the public ferry will be free of charge. The park will provide all necessary field guides, artifacts, and other materials to conduct programming.

**To Apply:**

Please submit a cover letter, resume/CV and one letter of recommendation to both Ranger Brian Swanson at: [brian.swanson@ncparks.gov](mailto:brian.swanson@ncparks.gov), and Rachel Bisesi at: [rachelb@nccoast.org](mailto:rachelb@nccoast.org). Applications will be due by March 15, 2018.