

Summer Naturalist

Stowe Land Trust, Stowe, VT



Stowe Land Trust (SLT) is a member-supported, non-profit, land conservation organization dedicated to the conservation of scenic, recreational, and productive farm and forest lands for the benefit of the greater Stowe community. The Summer Naturalist Program provides learning opportunities that inspire local citizens to engage with their natural world and foster a love and appreciation for the land. We bring expert knowledge of the natural world and outdoor spaces in Stowe, and our programs provide time for kids to explore outside with us and with their families, as well as guided opportunities for people to help care for the land. One of our greatest strengths is providing authentic experiences outdoors. These opportunities are critical for supporting our community's wellbeing and developing a sense of place and land stewardship ethic.

This position is part of the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board AmeriCorps (VHCB AmeriCorps). The VHCB AmeriCorps program supports the innovative dual-goal approach to creating stable affordable housing opportunities for Vermont residents while preserving the natural and working landscape. VHCB AmeriCorps is a national service program that places members with non-profit housing or land and energy conservation organizations around the state.

Essential Functions:

- Develop and deliver education programs and service-learning opportunities to the public, school groups, day camps, and other groups as part of SLT's Naturalist Program. Adapt to online platforms and/or self-guided formats as COVID-19 guidelines dictate.
- Assist with SLT's stewardship program including recruiting, coordinating, and managing volunteers and completing annual stewardship tasks on properties.
- Maintain accurate and timely program, stewardship, and volunteer records.
- Create content for SLT's print, web, and social media community outreach efforts.
- Represent SLT at various public outreach events. Adapt protocols as COVID-19 guidelines dictate.
- Participate in an Independent Service Project under the guidance of VHCB AmeriCorps
- Participate in VHCB AmeriCorps Trainings, Service Days, Events, and Program Initiatives.
- Engage in professional and personal development activities and networking opportunities.

Desired Qualifications:

- Experience teaching children, preferably in an outdoor or alternative education setting, and/or a BA/BS in a relevant field.
- A strong interest in conservation, Vermont natural history and the environment. Knowledge in topics such as core routines of nature connection (sit spot, journaling, mapping, etc.) and natural history topics (birding, environmental sciences, animal tracking, wilderness living, climate change science, animal behavior, botany, geology, etc.)
- Strong group management skills and the ability to lead, coordinate, and direct a group of up to 30 children and adults on education programs and as volunteers.
- Love of outdoor exploration and comfort walking and navigating on and off trail in the woods.
- Ability to serve independently while maintaining open communication with supervisor.
- Excellent people skills. Be outgoing and tactful. Have a positive and collaborative attitude.



VHCB AmeriCorps

- Attention to detail and excellent organization and time management skills.
- Ability to do light trail maintenance and use hand tools.
- Ability to serve some evenings and weekends to attend community events.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Be US citizen or have permanent resident status;
- Be at least 18 years of age upon entering the Pre-Service Orientation or 17 years of age with verified parental permission;
- Be a high school graduate, have a GED certificate, or be willing to work towards a GED as part of the service-term. A member cannot have dropped out of high school to join AmeriCorps.
- Has not been convicted of murder or sexual assault and is willing to undergo a National Service Criminal History Check;
- Be committed to the VHCB AmeriCorps program's ethic of service and personal and professional development of its participants;
- Have the ability and enthusiasm to drive to, attend, and participate in all required trainings and events, and be prepared to drive up to 2-3 hours each way.
- Available to regularly serve 40 hours per week

Additional Information:

This position involves both field and office service. Some weekend and evening service is required, particularly during summer months. Position begins March 22nd, 2021 and ends September 17th, 2021

This is a **Half Time** Position: Requires 915 hours for an average of 40 hours per week for 26 weeks. Member will receive a living allowance of \$10,800 (pre-tax), and an education award of \$3,097.50 (pre-tax) upon successful completion of service. Other benefits include health insurance, federal school loan forbearance, and various training and networking opportunities.

This position does have recurring access to vulnerable populations (youth, persons over 60, individuals with disabilities).

To Apply: <https://vhcb.org/our-programs/vhcb-ameri-corps/positions> **Position Open Until Filled**

For questions about this position or to send additional materials:

Elisabeth Fenn, Conservation Program Manager, elisabeth@stowelandtrust.org, (802) 253-7221

Additional information on AmeriCorps is available at www.americorps.org.

The Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB) is sponsoring this AmeriCorps position through their AmeriCorps Program. VHCB is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Positions are open to all applicants without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran's status, religion or creed.

Member Name: _____

Signature: _____



Serve. Experience. Lead