

Summer Day Camp Director

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust seeks a creative, energetic, and organized Camp Director to plan, manage, and lead our highly regarded nature-immersion summer day camp. We have a well-established framework for camp and a supportive community that fills extensive wait-lists every year — we just need the right person with the experience and skills to be the next leader of this wonderful program.

The position is full-time while camp is in session, (mid-June through August) and part-time outside of the camp season, with potential to become full-time depending on the background and experience of the successful candidate. The successful applicant will begin work immediately at our Brunswick office with a remote work option until camp begins.

The ideal candidate enjoys being outdoors all day with kids, leading youth programs, mentoring counselors-in-training, communicating with parents and families, and running seamless camp operations. We're looking for someone to continue our wonderful CREA¹ Camp tradition while innovating to keep the experience fresh.

The mission of our nonprofit CREA Camp is to “provide rich, nature-based experiences that cultivate delight, curiosity, respect for diversity, collaboration, and a strong sense of environmental stewardship in youth. At CREA, campers learn that nature is a wondrous place, filled with magic, mystery, and adventure!”

CREA Camp takes place at our off-grid, solar-powered Ecology Center, located within the 230-acre Cathance River Nature Preserve in Topsham, Maine. Traditionally, we have run camp Monday through Friday, from 8:30am-4:00pm during summer months. Due to the size of our facilities, we have kept camp small — usually around 32 campers per week. Campers range from age 6 to 13, with more weeks devoted to 6 – 10 year-olds. We offer a robust counselor-in-training (CIT) leadership program for ages 14-17 during all camp weeks.

In addition to the Ecology Center building, our campus includes over 5 miles of hiking trails to be explored during camp, a small pond with a dock, seemingly endless acres of forest for exploration and games, and easy access to shallow sections of the river for fishing, frog-catching, and cooling off on hot days. The overwhelming majority of the camp day is spent outdoors.

¹ CREA Camp was launched in 2007 as part of Cathance River Education Alliance's (CREA) desire to get children outdoors, exploring and learning about the natural world. In July of 2023, CREA merged with Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust (BTLT), where all of our programs, including CREA camp, continue. CREA Camp has grown in size and popularity in recent years and we aspire to grow further in the coming years to accommodate the pressing need for quality outdoor summer day camp.

Typical camper activities include cooling their toes in the Cathance River; hunting for frogs; fishing in deep river pools, catching and releasing fish; scooping pond muck in search of newts, tadpoles, and insect larvae to observe; engineering boats and testing them out in the river rapids; playing games like Beckon, Bat & Moth; making nature-based crafts, and more.

Outside of the camp season, the Camp Director averages an estimated 10-15 hours per week — preparing for camp January through June, and planning the next camp season and exploring options to expand camp late August through December.

In addition to exploring options for expanding our summer camp, the right candidate could have opportunities to support or lead nature-based educational and community youth programs in collaboration with our two educators. We welcome candidates who have the initiative and enthusiasm to help us grow our youth programs.

The Camp Director is responsible for planning and implementing all aspects of CREA Camp, including:

- hiring and training Camp Counselors
- managing camp counselors and directing all program activities
- managing the camp registration process and enrollment lists
- fulfilling Maine state camp licensing requirements
- running our CIT leadership program
- communicating effectively and openly with parents, campers, and camp staff
- ensuring a positive experience for campers that aligns with the CREA Camp mission statement

Qualifications:

- A love of nature, children, and education
- Excellent organizational and communication skills
- Experience working with/teaching children
- Experience in leadership positions
- Willingness to work a flexible schedule

Compensation. Compensation is \$24 - \$29/hr, depending on experience and qualifications, plus benefits including health insurance, retirement, paid leave, flexible hours, and remote work options outside of camp season.

To Apply. Please send resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references in a single document by email to: *hiring@btl.org*. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

For more information about CREA Camp, see our Camp page on the CREA website. For more information about BTLT, see our website. Please address questions to: *hiring@btl.org*.

BTLT is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin, genetics, disability, age, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. Because this position involves working with children, the successful candidate will be subject to background checks.