

Cornell Cooperative Extension Yates County



Love the Finger Lakes? Become a Watercraft Steward & get paid to help protect them! Summer 2019

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Yates County and Keuka Lake Association (KLA) are hiring Watercraft Stewards.

Position: Lead Watercraft Steward/Coordinator

Locations: Keuka Lake launches including the Village of Penn Yan, Keuka Lake State Park, and Town of Urbana

Time: 40 hrs/week, May 25th through October 31st; must work weekends and holidays; seasonal (summer) position

Pay: \$13.50 per hour; non-benefits-eligible position

Job Description:

The Watercraft Stewards will be responsible for public outreach and education on slowing and preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. Under supervision of CCE Natural Resources Educator, Watercraft Stewards will offer watercraft inspections at public launches and provide educational information about aquatic invasive species and protocol for preventing their spread. Watercraft inspections involve removal of plants and other organic material from boats and trailers and identifying aquatic invasive species. Watercraft Stewards will collect daily data from their interactions with watercraft users using tablets and electronic data-entry software. Training will be provided.

Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Scheduling Watercraft Steward shifts.
- Providing on-call assistance to Stewards during their shifts through phone calls and assistance at the launches.
- Ensuring that Watercraft Stewards have the proper supplies.
- Ensuring that Watercraft Stewards enter their field data correctly and in a timely manner.
- Regularly check in on Watercraft Stewards while on-duty at boat launches.
- Conduct public education and outreach programs regarding the significance of New York's aquatic ecosystems and the threat of the spread of invasive species at watercraft launch sites.
- Disseminate educational information, press releases, and other materials as requested.
- Provide additional assistance and training to Watercraft Stewards as needed.
- Perform watercraft inspections when extra help is needed.
- Participate in CCE-hosted service events such as invasive species pulls, Invasive Species Awareness Week, etc.
- Attend and assist in organizing monthly meetings with Watercraft Stewards and CCE staff.
- Attend bi-weekly supervisory meetings with CCE staff.
- Two-day training session May 21st and 22nd at the Finger Lakes Institute

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Excellent interpersonal communication skills. Must have the ability to successfully and clearly present information and ideas to a diverse audience, and to react in a positive, proactive manner in confrontational circumstances.
- College students or recent graduates with experience in environmental education, natural resources management, biology, ecology, environmental studies/science, or a related field are encouraged to apply.
- Familiarity with aquatic invasive species and the general ecology of the Finger Lakes region or willingness to learn is preferred.

- Ability to work independently and responsibly without direct supervision.
- Ability to supervise others, including managing schedules, communicating duties, and managing conflicts.
- Valid Driver's license. Must provide own transportation to work sites and meeting locations.
- Ability to perform tasks requiring physical exertion, long hours in the sun, and traveling if necessary.
- Further specific skills required will be determined by specializations listed above.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Please email a resume and cover letter to CCE- Yates Natural Resources Educator, Laura Bailey, at lb698@cornell.edu by May 15th. If you have a question or need assistance supplying application materials, please contact CCE- Yates Natural Resources Educator at (315) 536-5123

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