



2022-23 Environmental Education Corps
Barr Lake State Park Education & Interpretation Specialist Position Description

Barr Lake State Park Education & Interpretation Program Assistant

Program Overview: Led by the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE), the Environmental Education Corps (eeCorps) AmeriCorps Program places AmeriCorps members at organizations throughout Colorado to focus on increasing environmental literacy for PreK-12 students and implementing the goals outlined in the Colorado Environmental Education Plan. eeCorps works directly with teachers, schools, and environmental education providers to support them in expanding reach and increasing impact of EE programming, while providing access to equitable learning experiences for all PreK-12 students. AmeriCorps members serving with the eeCorps provide direct service to improve outcomes in Environmental Stewardship and Education. AmeriCorps provides opportunities to improve lives and foster civic engagement all across the country.

Service Site Overview: This position will be located at Barr Lake State Park in Brighton, CO. The mission of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is to perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state, to provide a quality state parks system, and to provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. Barr Lake is an oasis on the plains, providing important habitat for wildlife, including a wildlife refuge, as well as offering a bed and breakfast for many species of resident and migrating birds.

Service Position Summary: Barr Lake State Park is an outdoor classroom open to everyone, every day of the year. This position will fill a critical need in Barr Lake State Park's interpretation and education programs, helping create and deliver meaningful and memorable educational experiences for visitors of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. This position is made for someone interested in sharing their love and passion for the outdoors with others.

Essential Functions (Primary Responsibilities)

eeCorps members engage with their Host Site organizations to develop, implement, and enhance programs, projects, and activities that will create progress towards eeCorps' and Barr Lake/CPW's goals. These duties include:

- Sharing your love of the outdoors by creating and presenting educational and interpretive programs and experiences for diverse audiences on-site and in the community
- Provide visitors with accurate and concise information regarding the park's natural and cultural resources and history, responsible recreation ethics, and general orientation to the site
- Collaborate with volunteer naturalists on developing and delivering programs
- Perform outreach to local schools and build relationships with teachers
- Collaborate with other local natural resource organizations, partners, and businesses in the community
- Track progress and collect evaluation data for the program's performance measures
- Attend all eeCorps/AmeriCorps orientations, meetings and trainings

- Complete any eeCorps required National Day of Service projects
- Complete and submit all necessary eeCorps paperwork and reports by predetermined deadlines
- Some local travel required and occasional statewide travel possible

Marginal Functions (Secondary Responsibilities):

- May develop educational brochures, fliers, and other materials
- May assist with special events or programs within the park
- May assist with educational and volunteer trainings and other opportunities
- May need to serve on holidays and weekends

Physical, Emotional, and Intellectual Demands:

- Ability to work in outdoor setting in various weather conditions for up to 9 hours
- Ability to perform adequate research and fact checking using reputable resources when creating educational programs
- Commitment to equity in education and access to parks/outdoors

Qualifications:

- Excellent communication skills and comfort speaking in front of large groups
- Strong interpersonal and customer service skills
- Willingness to reach out to local community schools, organizations, etc.
- Self-motivated with planning and organizational skills
- Strong computer skills
- Ethic of national and community service and a strong desire to create positive change
- High school diploma or GED required
- Ability to pass criminal history checks required
- Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license and provide current Motor Vehicle Record (MVR)
- First Aid and CPR certifications (can be provided by agency)
- Reliable transportation and proof of auto insurance required
- U.S. Citizenship or lawful permanent resident status required
- COVID-19 vaccination record required

Term of Service:

This is a full-time national and community service position requiring a minimum of 1,700 hours during the term (approximately 40 hours/week). The position begins August 15, 2022 and ends July 28, 2023. Flexible hours are required, including occasional evening and weekend commitments. Member may be required to serve on Days of Service that take place on certain national holidays throughout the year.

Training and Support Provided: eeCorps members receive significant training and experience in community engagement, project implementation, leadership, diverse populations, and more. Up to 20% of total hours served may be spent in applicable approved training and professional development. Colorado Parks and Wildlife also provides a variety of training opportunities, including Certified Interpretive Guide certificate program (national accreditation through National Association for Interpretation), annual interpretive/environmental education and volunteer program trainings, National Archery in the Schools certification, fishing clinic skills, and more. Members will be supervised and supported by Michelle Seubert, Barr Lake Park Manager, as well as by Erin Dreps, eeCorps Program Coordinator. Mary McCormac, Statewide Interpretation and Wildlife Viewing Coordinator for CPW, will

also assist and be a resource for the park and eeCorps member. The 2022-23 cohort of eeCorps members serving throughout the region will act as additional resources and support for each other.

Location and Service Conditions: This position is based at Barr Lake State Park, 13401 Picadilly Rd, Brighton, CO 80603.

Benefits:

- A living allowance of \$16,502 distributed biweekly over the term dates. Taxes are deducted and the living allowance is distributed by direct deposit to the member's bank account.
- \$150/month housing stipend
- Health insurance
- Child care assistance, if eligible
- An education award of \$6,495 upon successful completion of term of service.
- It is possible to defer student loans while serving as an AmeriCorps member.
- Mileage reimbursement for travel to required trainings and program sites.
- Non-tangible benefits include extensive training, valuable experience, networking, and the opportunity to serve the local community in a crucial area of need.
- Ability to participate in regional EE leadership councils; option to obtain CAEE's nationally-recognized Professional Environmental Educator Certification.

Diversity and Equal Opportunity: Colorado Parks and Wildlife shall not discriminate against any employee, volunteer or program participant on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, creed, religion, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, age, disability, political affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, gender expression, marital, parental, veteran or military status, political service, or membership, participation or association with any employee organization. We provide equal employment and volunteer opportunities to all individuals based on relevant qualifications and abilities.

The Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE) recognizes the value of diversity and inclusiveness to advance environmental education. CAEE defines diversity in its broadest sense and welcomes everyone to the field of environmental education and the Alliance, including but not limited to people of all races, ethnicities, genders, gender expressions, sexual orientations, abilities, ages, national origins, socioeconomic status, religious affiliations, languages, and heritages.

To Apply:

If you are interested in applying to this position, please send your resume and a short cover letter outlining your interest in the program and commitment to national service to Erin Dreps, eeCorps Program Coordinator, at americorps@caee.org. Please include "AmeriCorps Barr Lake State Park Application" in the subject line. Please also attach a list of three (3) references, and a diversity and inclusion statement that is no longer than one page in length.

**Note: Position will be filled pending grant award.*