

Mentorship Program

The Connecticut Audubon Society, Center in Fairfield

The Connecticut Audubon Society

The Connecticut Audubon Society (CAS) protects Connecticut's birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through conservation, education, and advocacy. Founded in 1898, CAS operates centers in Fairfield, Milford, Old Lyme, Pomfret, Hampton, and Sherman, as well as an EcoTravel office in Essex. It also manages 21 wildlife sanctuaries, encompassing more than 3,300 acres of open space in Connecticut, and educates over 100,000 children and adults annually. The Connecticut Audubon Society is an independent organization, not affiliated with any national or governmental group.

The Opportunity: Trainee in Mentorship Program

The Connecticut Audubon Society's Center in Fairfield is seeking enthusiastic, energetic high school students with an interest in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) to participate in a program that will engage elementary, high school, and college students in Norwalk (CT) in 8 weeks of age-appropriate STEM education, training, and mentorship to build a robust pipeline of students pursuing secondary education and careers in science and conservation. This program will reinforce STEM programming for elementary school students while providing academic, work, and mentoring experiences and demonstrating career pathways for high school and college students, with a particular focus on underserved students. This program is designed to foster and identify an increased interest in STEM and conservation as a career.

Applicants in this position will participate in a naturalist training to be class assistants for afterschool programs that teach elementary school students science utilizing CAS's award-winning Science In Nature Education program. This position will provide selected applicants the opportunity to gain work experience while learning about careers in conservation/education.

This is a great opportunity for those who love working with children, have a passion for nature and or environmental conservation and are seeking to gain more experience in environmental education.

Primary Responsibilities

- Participate in 12 hours of training on CAS Curriculum at the Fairfield Nature Center from November-March (transportation will be provided)
- Assist with prep and delivery of high quality, safe afterschool education programs to K-5 students including set-up, clean-up and material preparation (March-May).
- Ensure all programs are conducted according to CAS guidelines
- Represent Connecticut Audubon Society in a positive and professional manner
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications

- Must be enrolled in either 11th or 12th grade of high school
- Have excellent interpersonal skills for working with teachers, administrators, child, staff and professional colleagues.
- Operate with high professional standards
- Use various software programs, including but not limited to Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Zoom, Google Meets proficiently once trained
- Demonstrate excellent written and verbal skills
- Drive for excellence and achieving goals
- Accept direction in cooperative, flexible manner
- Collaborate with diverse group of individuals and teams

This position provides:

- You will be paid \$15 per hour
- Experience in teaching natural science programs to K-5 school children
- Exposure to careers in conservation/environmental conservation
- Opportunity to hone skills in environmental education techniques and integrating school science curriculum into informal settings.
- Expertise in effective communication with diverse audiences
- The opportunity to apply for paid summer camp counselor positions
- The opportunity to work with the CAS for your capstone project

There will be an interest meeting on Tuesday, November 1st after school in room 314A

If you can not make the meeting, contact Mr. Broderick (broderickk@norwalkps.org, Room 314A) for more information

Connecticut Audubon Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer, maintains a drug free workplace, and complies with the ADA. All applicants are considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, age, national origin, ancestry, physical/mental disability, military/veteran status, genetic information, marital status, or any other protected characteristic under applicable federal, state, and local laws.