



Organization Information

Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter is a 1,200 acre nature preserve located in Park City, UT. It includes 800 acres of wetland habitat, 400 acres of upland habitat, and a 10,000 square foot Platinum LEED certified education center. The mission of Swaner is to preserve the land, educate the community about the value of nature, and nurture both the ecosystem and the human connection to the ecosystem. Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter is part of Utah State University.

Fostering the delicate relationship between people and nature is at the heart of managing the Preserve. The Preserve is nestled in an area with expanding development and plays an incredibly important role in the area's water quality, is home to a wide variety of wildlife, and offers 10 miles of recreational trails that are among Park City's most heavily used. Swaner aims to balance the needs of the native ecosystem with those of our community. We believe that the health and beauty of the natural landscape heightens the Park City quality of life.

Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter offers a wide range of education programs for youth and adults. Youth programs reach roughly 3,500 students each year and focus on science through place-based and inquiry-guided programs. Youth education programs offered include field trips, classroom visits, camps, and afterschool programs. A series of walks and talks, focused specifically for adults and families, gets adults out on the Preserve and interacting with local researchers, authors, and birders. Additionally, once a year the EcoCenter hosts a rotating exhibit on different topics; past topics have included open space, mountain lions, insects, and the National Park Centennial.

The Preserve also has a very active Volunteer Program and Land and Conservation Program. Projects are currently being conducted to stabilize stream banks on the preserve, restore wetland habitat and function, monitor water quality, and manage invasive weeds.

Internship Information

Swaner has one or two for-credit (unpaid) internships available during Spring 2018 (January—May). This internship is flexible in number of hours, but applicants who can commit to at least 8 hours per week will be given preference. Selected applicant(s) will be exposed to a variety of programs at Swaner. Intern responsibilities will include:

- Assisting with field trip and classroom visit programs in Summit, Wasatch, and Salt Lake counties
- Helping to develop camp curriculum and assemble materials for school break and summer camp programs
- Co-teaching the Little Naturalist preschool reading program
- Taking an educator role in Ecker Hill Middle School afterschool pilot program
- Assisting with other on-going education programs



This internship will provide the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of responsibilities critical to the operation of a non-profit education program. Interns will have additional opportunities to learn about nonprofit administration, LEED building features, development and grant writing, marketing, conservation and land management, etc.

The weekly hours and schedule may vary, and has flexibility. Schedule will be developed around selected applicant(s) needs.

Desired Qualifications

- A commitment to outdoor education and/or conservation
- The ability to work in a self-motivated and independent manner
- An outgoing, optimistic, and can-do attitude
- A desire to work with youth
- Basic proficiency with Microsoft Office products
- Coursework relevant to the fields of environmental education, conservation, science education, outdoor leadership, etc.
- Ability to speak Spanish a plus
- Must be able to pass a background check

Instructions to Applicant:

For questions about the Education Internship, please contact Katherine Veeder, Education Director, at katherine.veeder@usu.edu or (435)797-8942. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to contact listed above.

