



Friends of the Lost River, Inc. • 2818 Nashville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101
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Nature Center Program Guide Volunteer

Summary

Do you love working with children and being in nature? Would you like to learn more about local plants and animals, geology, and adaptations? Lost River Cave Nature Center is looking to fill a Voluntary Program Guide Position for the fall/spring school year.

Lost River Cave Vision and Mission

The **vision** of the Friends of Lost River, Inc. is that citizens of all ages in south center Kentucky learn to appreciate the region's natural environments and cultural heritage of Kentucky's Cave County and become a network of stewards who advocate for the preservation of the environment and the cultural history.

The **mission** of the Lost River Cave is to provide outdoor experiences that nurture a connection to nature and stewardship of the karst environment; and to foster an appreciation of Lost River Cave's cultural history and geological significance.

Program Guide Docent

Your Role:

We are seeking a creative, enthusiastic, environmentally-minded naturalist to lead hands-on interpretive, exploration, and discovery based learning programs for school aged children and families. This position works with groups of 5-40 from ages 5 to adult in both the classroom and outdoor settings. The Program Guide sparks interest in the students all while educating them about nature and environmental education topics.

Job Type:

This is a voluntary Docent position. Hours can vary from 2-20 a week, depending on your availability. A typical time commitment, per event, is 2-5 hours. Hours can include weekdays, weekends, and holidays. Needs will be greatest February-May.

Duties:

- Provide educational programming for school groups, scout groups, and general public during field trips, camps, and Nature Center events and classes.
- Assist in set-up of programming.
- Interact with guests in an engaging and friendly manner.
- Manage program time efficiently.
- Assist with various projects at the Nature Center.
- Manage informational booths at special events.

- Assist with program animal care.

Requirements:

Basic Qualification-

- Previous experience or a strong interest in working with children outdoors.
- A strong interest and commitment to expanding naturalist and interpretive skills.
- Is responsible, timely and has good follow through.
- Enjoy working with a team of people.
- Able to communicate with others proficiently.
- Flexible and Creative-capable of on-demand, unstructured, adjustments to scheduled activities.
- Have reliable transportation to and from work.
- Have reliable cell phone and computer with internet access at your home.
- Attend seasonal and pre-planned staff meetings.
- Attend all staff training as planned by Nature Center.

Optional but bonus-

- Some training in national curriculums such as Project WET, Learning Tree, and Project WILD.
- Some caving skills.
- Current first aid and CPR certified.

Physical Requirements:

- Must be able to walk, stand, and exert well-paced mobility for up to 5 hours.
- Must be able to lift up to 30 pounds.
- Must be able to bend, twist, stoop, squat, stretch, push and pull.
- Must be able to work in all weather conditions.

Training:

No teaching experience necessary, however previous work with children or in an educational setting is a plus. Training in interpretation, program delivery and pedagogy, educational content, and educational goals will be provided by the Nature Center Director and the Chief Naturalist. Training will consist of classroom, manual, program trailing, and mentoring.