

Job Description: TNC Backpacking Trip Leader Position

TNC Mission: The Nature Connection strives to inspire our communities to connect to nature. We promote healthy lifestyles through educational, fun, and energized outdoor experiences.

Classification: Non-profit project of the Delta County School District, Hotchkiss, Colorado; K-12 and community outdoor education

Location: The Nature Connection Central Hub; 397 Bulldog Street Hotchkiss 81419

Effective Date: Open until filled; Work for two weeks beginning July 8 - July 21, 2018 - flexibility within this timeline

Positions: 2 available

Job Summary: TNC Backpacking Leaders will help serve as an instructor in the wilderness and ensure the safe success of two backpacking programs for youth and interns during the summer of 2018. Leaders will have the following responsibilities including, but not limited to:

Responsibilities:

- Work with TNC Program Director to ensure safe and effective backpacking trips, while meeting the needs of youth involved
- Provide supervision and mentorship for two TNC Backpacking Guide Interns; give them responsibility along the way
- Provide supervision of 8-10 students in a backcountry scenario for four days and three nights
- Ability to navigate and instruct in all weather conditions and situations while hiking a planned loop; must consider mileage and specified campsites for successful route completion - familiarity of the Colorado Rocky Mountains a plus
- General comfortability in remote areas; competency in outdoor skills and judgment: the ability to make safe decisions under challenging circumstances
- Ability to make decisions and manage risk for your group at all times, during all hours of day and night
- Provide a quality and fun learning environment to youth, with ability to be a guide - teaching on topics of wilderness, Leave No Trace ethics, wildlife, backpacking fundamentals etc.

Skill Requirements:

- 21 years or older
- First Aid/CPR certificate required. (Wilderness First Aid or Responder certificate preferred)
- Ability to pack up to 50+ lbs consistently in multiple elevations and terrain hiking in the mountains from 2-10 miles a day
- Ability to safely find camp at night, assist youth in tent set-up and cooking planned meals; providing general oversight of these activities
- Communication: from conveying expectations to active listening is a must

- Outdoor enthusiast: Knowledge and experience leading backpacking trips
- Experience with youth: specifically middle and high school students
- Experience navigating backcountry environments (map and compass, GPS technology); survival skills; leadership skills
- Leave No Trace Trainer (preferred)

Time: Must be available the week of July 8-14, and July 15-21

Pre trip assistance: July 8, July 15
Backpacking trips: July 9-12, July 16-19.
Post trip assistance: July 13-15, July 20-21
Pre and post trip assistance is flexible, and as needed.
(*Leading both trips is not required, but preferred.)

Compensation: \$120/day x 4 days spent in backcountry per trip

Please Submit: Resume (with three references included)

-Send resume to: priscilla.williams@deltaschools.com

Top candidates will be selected for an interview by the Executive Director and Program Director of The Nature Connection