



## Position Available

# Outdoor Educator

### **Background**

The Buzzards Bay Coalition is a non-profit, membership organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and sustainable use and enjoyment of Buzzards Bay and its watershed. The organization works to improve the health of the Bay ecosystem for all through education, conservation, research and advocacy. The Coalition works throughout the entire Buzzards Bay watershed to protect the region's coastal, river, and drinking water quality and the upland forests, wetlands and streams that support a healthy watershed/bay ecosystem. We are supported by 9,300 members and hundreds of volunteers.

Key to a clean, healthy Bay is an engaged community that values our local environment, understands the threats that Buzzards Bay faces and their own role in protecting it. In support of our mission, the Coalition is committed to engaging the people of Southeastern Massachusetts in discovering and connecting to the incredible natural resources of the region. We seek to empower people of all ages and backgrounds to explore and connect with the beaches, salt marshes and coves of Buzzards Bay as well as the forests, rivers and streams of the watershed through hands-on, outdoor exploration.

### **Position Description**

The Buzzards Bay Coalition seeks an energetic, experienced, and talented leader in outdoor education to develop, coordinate, and deliver outdoor exploration programs for youth, families, and adults in the Buzzards Bay watershed. These programs aim to foster discovery, connection, and active stewardship among residents of the watershed. The position reports to the VP of Community Engagement and will be a key team member in the Community Engagement department.

The Outdoor Educator's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Schedule, plan, coordinate logistics, and manage the delivery of all of the Coalition's outdoor exploration programs, including:
  - o Provide hands-on, inquiry-based, outdoor exploration programs for thousands of youth, primarily ages 8-11, each year. Programs are designed to provide an introduction to exploration and build a connection between youth and their local environment. These programs take place during the

school day, after school, and during the summer and currently reach more than 4,000 youth in 12 communities each year.

- Manage the Coalition's Bay Adventures, our outdoor programs for families and adults. We offer over 100 Bay Adventures each year, and some of our more popular programs include Learn to Quahog and Itty Bitty Bay Explorers. The Outdoor Educator will be responsible for coordinating the delivery of our existing programs as well as developing creative and popular programs serving new audiences.
- Management and care of program equipment and supplies.
- While the Outdoor Educator will deliver much of the outdoor exploration programming, they will also be responsible for:
  - Supervising and training service members, interns, and seasonal staff in the development and delivery of programs and the recruitment and management of volunteers.
  - Building a base of volunteers to assist in the delivery of programs.
- Carry out program tracking and evaluation and secure funding for future programs.
- Facilitate professional development workshops for teachers on place-based, outdoor education and assist local elementary schools in the development of outdoor learning spaces.
- Coordinate education outreach initiatives, including management of the Richard C. Wheeler Learning Center's volunteers, aquaria, and events, and participation in local fairs and festivals.
- Evening and weekend work is required. The position requires significant travel across the watershed, and the Outdoor Educator must have access to reliable transportation.

### **Professional and Personal Qualifications**

- Comfort with, and an excitement for, a wide range of outdoor activities, including hiking, paddling, fishing, biking, etc.
- A minimum of 3 years of experience in safely leading people of all ages and backgrounds in outdoor exploration.
- Experience training and managing volunteers, interns, and others in delivering outdoor programs.

- Strong communications skills including comfort with learners of all ages and strong oral communication, interpersonal, and writing skills.
- Comfort with working outside in all seasons and in various weather conditions.
- Bachelor's degree or higher. Degrees in education, marine or environmental science preferred but not required.
- Knowledge of Buzzards Bay, the southeastern Massachusetts landscape, watershed ecology and familiarity with local and regional issues preferred.

### **Salary/Benefits**

This full-time salaried position reports to the Vice-President of Community Engagement. Competitive nonprofit salary plus benefits including employer contributions towards Health Insurance and 401(k) Retirement plan and access to supplemental benefits and gas reimbursement beyond the normal commute.

### **To Apply**

Please send a resume and cover letter, via email, to:

Mark Rasmussen, President  
Buzzards Bay Coalition  
114 Front Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
[rasmussen@savebuzzardsbay.org](mailto:rasmussen@savebuzzardsbay.org)

*The Buzzards Bay Coalition is an equal opportunity employer  
and actively seeks a diverse pool of candidates in this search.*