

Summer Forest Ranger McLean Game Refuge

About the Game Refuge:

The McLean Game Refuge is a 4,415-acre wildlife sanctuary in north-central Connecticut. It was established in 1932 by former CT Governor and US Senator, George McLean on his private hunting reserve at the time of his death. Our work here focuses on ecological research and the management of a diverse array of habitats to support hundreds of plant and animal species, many of which are regionally threatened by habitat loss, invasive species, and climate change. Within our vast forests, we provide 27 miles of forest roads and hiking trails for the public to hike, snowshoe, and cross-country ski.

Position Summary:

The McLean Game Refuge is searching for three (3) Summer Forest Rangers to complete its 2023 Summer Forest Crew. Under the direction of the Crew Leader and the Game Refuge Director, the Summer Forest Rangers will aid in the research, education, conservation, and maintenance activities of the Game Refuge for the summer of 2023. Applicants must be current undergraduate students pursuing a course of study in forestry, environmental studies, biology, botany, outdoor recreation, or another related field. Recent college graduates may also apply given they are pursuing a graduate degree in a related field. This position is designed as an internship to provide professional skills for a future career in an environmental field. This is a 10-week program beginning the first week of June and concluding in August.

Duties:

- Remove trash and brush from trails
- Build, restore, and reroute trails and forest roads
- Collect GPS data and conduct mapping projects
- Collect and interpret tree core samples
- Support various research projects underway at the Game Refuge
- Maintain Game Refuge boundaries using mapping and signage
- Interact with visitors in the Game Refuge, providing information and encouraging visitors to adhere to the rules and policies
- Clean and maintain equipment
- Perform other similar physical and clerical tasks related to conservation and recreation

Additional Requirements:

- Arrive on time and consistently and clearly communicate with Crew Leader and Director about work availability
- Maintain a courteous and professional demeanor
- Come to work prepared with appropriate tools, equipment, and attire (boots and long pants must be worn at all times)

Experience/Education:

- Applicants must have completed or be pursuing a college degree in forestry, environmental studies, biology, botany, outdoor recreation, or another related field
- This position requires full range of body motion. Ability to lift and carry items weighing 50 pound or more, often combined with bending and turning. Requires manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination. Requires corrected vision and hearing within normal limits. Requires ability to hike 5 – 10 miles. Requires the use of hand tools
- Applicants must have demonstrated work or volunteer experience in an environmental, conservation, or outdoor recreation field.

Application Materials:

- Resume
- Cover Letter: One-page statement explaining why the applicant is interested in this position, how it will help them with their professional goals, and how their qualifications will support the initiatives of the Game Refuge
- Applicants must submit their materials to Jody Smith at employment@mcleancares.org by April 28.

Compensation:

- Compensation will be paid on an hourly basis at a rate of \$15/hour