



## Summer Crew Leader 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 a Crew Leader to oversee its summer 2026 Forest Ranger college intern program ("Forest Crew"). Under the guidance of the Game Refuge Director, the Crew Leader will manage the three summer Forest Rangers in the research, education, conservation, and maintenance activities of the Game Refuge. Applicants for this position must have demonstrated leadership in their previous work and volunteer activities, and they must have some experience in using hand tools and various power tools (such as power drills, weed whackers, lawn mowers, etc.). They must possess a passion for the natural world and an understanding of forest ecology, land stewardship, and outdoor recreation. Applicants must be current undergraduate or graduate students pursuing a course of study in forestry, environmental studies, biology, botany, outdoor recreation, or another related field. This position is designed to develop leadership and professional skills for a future career in an environmental field.

The employment period will begin on May 18 so the Crew Leader has time to become familiar with the Game Refuge before leading the crew in June. The position will conclude in August with the rest of the Forest Crew.

### **Duties:**

- Work with Game Refuge staff to develop daily schedules for Forest Rangers
- Teach forest ecology principals to Forest Rangers in the field
- Lead the collection of GPS data for GIS mapping projects
- Instruct forest measurement activities including vegetation sampling, tree coring, tree size measurements, inventory, etc.
- Guide Forest Rangers in the design and implementation of environmental and wildlife management plans
- Use lawnmowers, brush mowers, and weed whackers to maintain office and parking areas
- Interact with visitors in the Game Refuge, providing information and encouraging visitors to adhere to the rules and policies
- Remove invasive species
- Clean and maintain equipment
- Perform other similar physical and clerical tasks as required by the Game Refuge staff

**Experience/Education:**

- Applicants must be pursuing a college or graduate 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 leadership, passion, and field work within 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@mcleancare.org](mailto:employment@mcleancare.org) by April 24.

**Compensation:**

- Compensation will be paid on an hourly basis at a rate of \$18.94/hour.
- This position is 35 hours per week.