



Make a difference · Be a part of something

Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS) is looking for active, hands-on individuals with an enthusiasm for protected public lands to join our team.

Position Title: Wilderness Ranger

Position Duration: 6 months (26 weeks)

Status: Temporary/Seasonal

Compensation: \$15/hour

Position Supervisor: Program Manager

Location: George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, Virginia

About Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS)

We are a passionate team of employees, volunteers, and supporters, dedicated to a mission of educating, cultivating, and empowering an engaged public for the stewardship of protected public lands. We pride ourselves on being a transformative conservation non-profit, serving as a resource to our local partners and the federal land managing agencies we work with.

SAWS was founded in 2010 to respond to a regional need for stewardship focused on federally designated wilderness. We work with the national forests in the mountain regions of Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia to provide stewardship through our four program areas: field crews, wilderness rangers, volunteers, and education.

Position Summary

Under the supervision of the Program Manager, a Wilderness Ranger's work may include, but is not limited to:

- Stakeholder and public engagement and education (Volunteer day leadership, Leave No Trace, bear safety and awareness, Wilderness education, etc.)
- Trail Assessments
- GPS mapping and data collection
- Other Wilderness character monitoring
- Trail maintenance

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Collect, manage, and report field work output
- Assist in developing and maintaining strong, positive relationships with US Forest Service personnel, partner organization staff, and partner organization volunteers
- Create media (blogs, photography, video, etc.) to share for reporting and documentation
- Model and practice Leave No Trace principals in the field
- Follow and practice SAWS organizational policies in the field
- Maintain a safe, fun, and positive working environment
- Maintain high standard levels for project completion

Qualifications

- Enthusiasm for the SAWS mission, environmental conservation, and public lands

- Excellent interpersonal communication skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Ability to travel on foot over rough terrain for up to 10 miles per day while carrying 50 lbs or more
- Ability to spend up to 5 days at a time in the backcountry
- Knowledge of Leave No Trace ethics, including backcountry camp and travel practices
- Ability to work alone in a remote and primitive setting
- Experience assessing trail deficiencies and prescribing solutions to trail problems desired
- Experience with Trimble GPS units and ArcGIS software desired
- Desire to be a vibrant member of an enthusiastic working team and transformative non-profit organization and to make a difference for the surrounding landscape and communities

This position is eligible for Federal Resource Assistant Hiring Authority

To Apply

Please submit a cover letter and resume online at www.trailcrews.org/employment-application.

Questions regarding the application may be submitted via email to Eric Giebelstein, Program Manager, at ericgiebelstein@trailcrews.org.

SAWS is an equal opportunity employer and provides a drug-free workplace.