



Position Post Date: January 3, 2017

Join our team: Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards (SAWS) is looking for individuals with enthusiasm for protected public lands.

Position Title: US Naval Academy Field Crew Leader/ Assistant Field Crew Leader

Position Duration: April 11 to Mid-August, 2017

Status: Temporary/Seasonal

Compensation: \$14.50/hr for Assistant Field Crew Leader, \$15.00/hr for Field Crew Leader

Position Supervisor: Program Manager

Location: Southwest 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

The United States Naval Academy Field Crew Leader and Assistant Leader will lead a crew of six, comprised of the Field Crew Leader, an Assistant Field Crew Leader, and four Naval Academy Midshipmen. Field Crew Leaders will complete eight weeks of orientation and hands-on training, followed by 12 weeks working on multi-day backcountry field projects for up to 10 days at a time. Crew Leaders will provide leadership training for the midshipmen and may address projects such as, but not limited to:

- Trail relocations
- Erosion control (installation of water bars, grade dips, log or stone steps, etc.)
- Mitigating campsite impacts
- Reestablishing trail tread
- Brushing trail corridors and removing downed trees
- Baseline species data collection
- Non-native and invasive species removal
- Public education (Leave No Trace, bear safety and awareness, Wilderness education, etc.)
- Boundary Marking

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Complete field crew leader training, including trail construction, trail maintenance, Wilderness First Aid, crosscut saw, backcountry camp set up and procedures, Leave No Trace ethics, and backpacking skills
- Teach leadership skills and facilitate leadership opportunities to US Naval Academy Midshipmen.

- Lead and inspire crew members to effectively complete critical backcountry stewardship projects
- Maintain tools and equipment
- Assist SAWS staff 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
- Follow and enforce SAWS organizational policies in the field
- Maintain a safe, positive, and fun working environment
- Maintain high standard levels for project completion

Qualifications

- Enthusiasm for the SAWS mission, environmental conservation, public lands, and the Southern Appalachian landscape
- Ability to travel on foot over rough terrain for up to 10 miles per day while carrying 60 lbs or more
- Ability to work in a remote and primitive setting with diverse groups of people
- 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
- Six to nine months of backcountry field work
- Crew leader applicants need at least three months of leadership experience in a backcountry, field-based position

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.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

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