



Wilderness Volunteers 2019 Internship

Wilderness Volunteers (WV) is seeking applicants for a 2019 summer/fall internship position. Wilderness Volunteers is a nonprofit organization that promotes and organizes volunteer conservation service opportunities to people of all walks of life in America's wild lands. We work with public land agencies including the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service in order to complete necessary and meaningful work projects, and expose volunteers to public lands.

Applicants interested in this internship will need to commit three to five weeks over the course of the summer/fall. At a minimum, they will need to attend 3 week-long service projects (dates chosen by intern), and arrange their schedule with WV's Program Manager. Applicants should be comfortable with working in the backcountry and should be self-sufficient. Safety is critical and applicants should be very safety conscious. Interns will be required to make their own travel arrangements to and from service projects and will be expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner when interacting with service project participants, public land agency representatives, and the public during the internship period as they are representing Wilderness Volunteers. Intern must communicate with WV staff closely throughout internship and will be expected to provide and accept feedback related to the internship. They should also have some basic knowledge of the different public land agencies in the country and be familiar with the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Passion for the outdoors, public lands, conservation, and preservation.
- Good communication, writing, and/or photography skills.
- Proficient leader, self-motivated and self-directed, creative, and professional.
- A current valid driver's license and access to a vehicle.
- Backpacking, camping, and outdoor experience.
- Thorough understanding of, and interest in, conservation, preservation, and Leave No Trace principles.
- Working to complete a degree in one of the following: Environmental Studies, Environmental Science, Photojournalism, Photography, Advertising, or a related field. If you do not have one of these majors, please describe in your cover letter how your degree, background, and interests apply to this internship.
- Must have completed 3 semesters in specified degree program.

Some of the specific internship duties include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in a minimum of 3 week-long Wilderness Volunteers service projects over the summer/fall (150 hours minimum). Specific trips will be determined based on intern availability, preferences, and WV needs. Duties on service projects may include car-camping, backpacking, hiking over rough terrain, performing trail maintenance, cleaning up & restoring campsites, removing invasive plants, beach clean-up, planting, canoeing, portaging, and/or installing waterbars, checkdams, and boardwalks. Interns will be expected to assist leaders on projects and



represent WV in a professional manner. Please note this list is not all inclusive and duties will vary based on projects selected and the specific needs of the public land agencies involved.

- Writing 3 or more short articles per service project attended about their experiences on summer service projects, wilderness stewardship, or other approved topic for distribution through the Wilderness Volunteers blog or submission to an outdoor magazine. Articles should include photos taken by the intern during the service project.
- Opportunities to present your experiences while representing WV.

Training will be provided to the intern by Wilderness Volunteers staff/leaders and will include:

- Wilderness Volunteers Leader Training; project of choosing aligned with senior leader. This in-depth training includes food planning, cooking for groups in the backcountry, tool familiarization and safety, trail maintenance procedures, tips on working with public land agencies, managing health and safety risks in the outdoors, how to handle backcountry emergencies, training on Leave No Trace tenets and practice, as well as other specialty training opportunities depending on the specific project.
- Wilderness First Aid training; intern may attend a pre-approved Wilderness First Aid class and be reimbursed for up to \$200.
- Upon successful completion of WV Leader Training the intern can co-lead future WV projects based on project schedule availability, beyond the scope of the internship.
- On the job training will be provided on service projects throughout the summer/fall, as well as in the WV office before and after service projects.

This will not be a paid position; however, the intern will be reimbursed for up to \$300 for travel/equipment expenses incurred for each service project attended and will be reimbursed for up to \$200 of wilderness first aid training (WFA or WFR). Interns will gain experience in wilderness stewardship over the summer and will be more prepared to apply for jobs in the backcountry for the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service, Conservation Corps, or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A letter of recommendation will be provided by Wilderness Volunteers for interns who perform well.

Intern selection will be based on education, competency, and qualifications. Special preference will be given to individuals who meet preferred qualifications. Interns will be required to sign an internship agreement with Wilderness Volunteers as well as a Liability Release Agreement and Emergency Medical Information form for each project attended.

If you have any questions, you may call Wilderness Volunteers at (928) 255-1128. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter by **March 11th, 2019** to (email is preferred):

Wilderness Volunteers
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Flagstaff, AZ 86002
info@wildernessvolunteers.org