

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF NATURE PRESERVES & NATURAL RESOURCES**

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Environmental Educator

Location: McDowell Nature Center, McDowell Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg County (Charlotte), NC

Description/Responsibilities: We are seeking an energetic and creative individual to join our dynamic team of professionals. The successful candidate will develop and implement a variety of hands-on environmental education and nature-based programs in support of our mission to protect local biodiversity and natural heritage for its inherent value and for the benefit of future generations. In addition, this position is responsible for developing and facilitating outdoor experiences for urban, minority, and at-risk youth. This position is assigned to McDowell Nature Center in the beautiful 1,114 acre McDowell Nature Preserve, located on the shores of Lake Wylie in Southwest Mecklenburg County.

Specifically, the Environmental Educator will:

- Plan, schedule, and instruct environmental education, interpretative, and nature-based programs for all ages,
- Assist with planning and implementation of teacher workshops, summer ecology camps, and special events,
- Assist with designing thematic lesson plans and pre- and post-visit materials,
- Assist with division and department special events,
- Develop and facilitation programs for targeted at-risk youth throughout the community,
- Work closely with nature center staff to ensure program and facility coverage,
- Curate a variety of native animals including fish, reptiles, amphibians, and insects, establish feeding and maintenance schedules, and ensure adequate supplies are maintained,
- Assist with development of educational exhibits, interpretive brochures, and other educational materials,
- Maintain program props, interpretive displays, native plant gardens, and demonstration compost areas, and
- Work as part of an overall team of program staff at three nature centers within Mecklenburg County.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in environmental studies, natural resources, science education, biological sciences, or related field **and** at least one (1) year of experience in environmental education/interpretive program development and implementation. Past experience and strong skills with pre-school and elementary youth, as well as family groups, preferred. Applicants must possess strong organizational skills, be able to manage multiple tasks concurrently, and adjust to seasonal changes in workload. This position requires a valid driver's license and ability to obtain and maintain a County operator's permit. Previous experience working with at-risk youth is highly desirable. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays. Working irregular hours and frequent weekends is required.

Starting Salary: \$33,387 – \$41,734 and full benefits package.

To Apply: Applicants must apply using the on-line application at www.charmeck.org. Click on "On Line Services" and then "Jobs – County" and follow the instructions. Select the Environmental Educator position (Job ID 5117) and begin the application process. Please attach a resume to the online application.

Deadline: Monday Nov. 29, 2010

