

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

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Outdoor Recreation Specialist

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 nature-based outdoor recreational programs in support of our mission to protect local biodiversity and natural heritage for its inherent value and for the benefit of future generations. 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 outdoor recreation specialist will:

- Plan, schedule, and instruct a variety of outdoor adventure-based recreational programs, including but not limited to canoeing, kayaking, outdoor living skills, camping, orienteering, geo caching, and team building.
- Assist with planning and implementation of summer 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,
- Assist with development of exhibits and marketing materials,
- Work as part of an overall team of program staff at three nature centers within Mecklenburg County.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in recreation, education, environmental studies, or related field and at least one (1) year of experience in outdoor nature-based program development and implementation. Past experience and strong skills with 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. Prior experience in paddle sports, experiential education, and adventure recreation preferred. Professional certifications through American Canoe Association, Wilderness Advanced First Aid, and Leave No Trace are a plus. Required to work frequent weekends, holidays, and rotating shifts.

Starting Salary: \$33,387 – \$43,820 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 Recreation Specialist position (Job ID 5118) and begin the application process. Please attach a resume to the online application.

Deadline: Monday Nov. 29, 2010

