



## JOB POSTING

**Position:** Zoo Naturalist  
**Organization:** Seneca Park Zoo Society  
**Date Posted:** January 3, 2019  
**Applications Due:** January 18, 2019

**Department:** Programming and Conservation Action  
**Direct Supervisor:** Program Manager  
**FLSA Status:** Non-Exempt  
**Full-time/Part-time:** Part Time seasonal (May thru September), 25 - 35 hours per week, available weekends and evenings. Possibility of limited hours October through April.

### I. Job Summary

The Seneca Park Zoo Society is seeking a dynamic individual to support the Zoo's mission by inspiring our guests to take conservation action. The Zoo Naturalists are primarily responsible for inspiring conservation action to diverse Zoo audiences by:

- Facilitating program deliveries and discussions which engage guests and stakeholders, both onsite and offsite
- Maintaining interpretives and interpretive areas
- Conducting visitor surveys and studies
- Supporting other organizational tasks as needed

Work schedule may include flexible hours, weekends, weekdays, evenings, holidays and extended hours to meet the needs of the organization. Management retains the right to alter work schedules accordingly.

### II. Description of duties, responsibilities, essential functions:

#### Facilitating naturalist presentations and discussion to engage guests:

- Present, support or facilitate: Member Mornings, tours, Keeper Chats, Nature Connection stage programs; Experiences, Feedings, Animal Encounters (which includes animal handling), ZooMobiles, Butterfly Beltway, Nature Journaling, Nature Hikes, Park clean-ups, Citizen Science programs, and small group conversations.
- Promote programs to guests before the start of the program and stay to answer questions after the program.

- Work with and clearly communicate with zoo staff, docents, volunteers, ZooTeens, and other stakeholders to maintain program quality.
- Engage, inform and inspire guests throughout the zoo using both zoo animals and our local ecosystem, in the times between scheduled programs.
- Use bio-facts, animal habitats, interpretives, and signage to engage guests.
- Answer guest questions.
- Recognize different audience types and adjust engagement strategies accordingly.
- Interact with program animals, including; training, packing, handling, transporting and presenting.
- Operate outreach vehicles and golf carts.

#### **Maintaining Interpretives:**

- Carry out multiple daily checks and set up of signs, interactives and other interpretive exhibits.
- Maintain and clean interpretive exhibits as needed.

#### **Conducting Visitor Surveys and Studies:**

- Conduct visitor surveys and other studies about naturalist programs, habitats, programs and visitor interests, behaviors, attitudes as needed.

#### **Secondary Duties:**

- Assist with other department and zoo organizational tasks as needed

### **III. Qualifications**

- Recent experience with public speaking
- Ability to recognize differing audience segments by age, interest, demographics, learning styles and other characteristics
- Experience presenting to a variety of audiences
- Preferred Education and Experience:
- Experience with presentations in both formal and informal learning setting
- In the process of obtaining, or has obtained a college degree in biology, zoology, environmental science, environmental studies, conservation/natural resources education or related field
- Knowledge of animal biology, ecology and conservation

### **IV. Required Skills and Competencies:**

- Excellent public speaking skills

- A passion for the Seneca Park Zoo's conservation mission
- Ability to clearly and effectively communicate with staff, volunteers and guests
- Excellent customer service skills
- Ability to learn and understand different computer programs
- Excellent time management, and problem-solving skills
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team
- Must maintain on file a TB test no older than 12 months for handling animals
- Must have a valid NYS Driver's License
- Must be willing to be trained on animal handling
- Must be able to lift 40 lbs.
- Must have reliable transportation
- Ability to use proper judgement when handling animals
- Ability to adhere to all zoo policies and procedures

All interested applicants must submit a current resume and a cover letter describing their qualifications as they relate to the duties of the position. Electronic copies are preferred and may be submitted to: Jean Aurio [jaurio@senecazoo.org](mailto:jaurio@senecazoo.org) with Zoo Naturalist Position in the subject line or by hard copy to Zoo Naturalist Search, Seneca Park Zoo Society, 2222 St. Paul Street, Rochester, NY 14621. All applications must be received by **A January 18, 2019.**

*The Seneca Park Zoo Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer*