Senior Project/Internship Information

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes has provided educational opportunities for students in their final quarter of the school year. Most of these opportunities are offered to seniors in May to get hands-on, real-world experiences before they start their college career. The Nature Center has worked with seniors from Beachwood High School, Cleveland Heights-University Heights High School, Hathaway Brown Upper School, Hawken Upper School, Laurel Upper School, Orange High School, and Shaker Heights High School to provide experiences that range from 50 to 150 hours. The total hours are determined by the academic requirements of the school.

To secure a spot, students are expected to go through an application process. The best candidates are selected to fill the limited number of slots. The application process includes filling out an online application (www.shakerlakes.org), providing details about their project (school, contact information, requirements, project dates, etc.), providing 2 references, answering a series of essay questions and an interview. The Nature Center would like to provide the best experience that they can for each student, which is based on the information given in the application and interview. The Nature Center works with each student to provide a professional experience with a 30 hour work week to meet school requirements. This exploration of a professional career is meant to provide knowledge that the student can apply to their future career paths.

The Nature Center can provide projects in the following areas.

For students interested in pursuing a career in education or work with youth.....
Education Senior Project- Class Assistant (4 openings)
Serve as a guide to the natural beauty that surrounds the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. Responsibilities include assist our Environmental Educators with the presentation of classes for children from the age of 3 to 12, preparing activities for classes and camp and helping to ensure that the participating students have an enjoyable experience. Assistants may have to lead small group activities under the direction of the Environmental Education instructor.

For students interested in pursuing a career in marketing with a non-profit.....
Marketing Senior Project- Marketing Assistant (1 opening)
Assist in the production and promotion of summer events. Responsibilities may include helping to compile, edit, and distribute high-quality content for the monthly e-newsletter, quarterly newsletter, website, social media, and other print materials. All work is completed under the direction of the Marketing Director.

For students interested in pursuing a career related to conservation or environmental studies....
Land Management Senior Project- Stewardship Assistants (4 openings)
Assist in the implementation of land management plan by removing invasive plant species and planting native species. Responsibilities may include minor trail work, trash pick-up, managing the flower and planting beds around the building and pulling invasive plants. All work is completed under the direction of the Natural Resources Specialist.

For students interested in pursuing a career related to landscape architecture, building or construction....
Facilities Senior Project- Facilities Assistant (1 opening)
For Students interested in pursuing a career in building or construction and provide a pleasing experience for Nature Center guests. With assisting the facilities team, you would assist with building projects identified by your supervisor. Pick up trash on property both on-trail and off-trail locations. Assist
Senior Project/ Internship Cover Sheet

Thank you for considering the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes as a site for your Senior Search Project! Projects are filled on an ongoing basis. Please complete this page including the essays, an online application and return reference forms to indicate your interest in this program.

A mandatory Orientation Session will be held on April 12, 2019 from 4-5 pm for all accepted candidates.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

First Name: __________________________ Last Name: __________________________

E-Mail Address: _______________________________ Phone: __________________________

Career Interest/ Academic Major: __________________________________________________

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

School Name: ______________________________________________________

Senior Project Contact: __________________________ Title: __________________________

Contact Phone Number: __________________________ Contact E-mail: __________________________

SENIOR PROJECT INFORMATION:

Desired Project Area:
☐ Stewardship/ Land Management
☐ Education
☐ Facilities

Start Date: ___________ End Date: ___________ # of Hours Required: ___________

ESSAY QUESTIONS:
Please select write a 100-250 word essay for each question below. Submit essays with application.

1. Why do you want to do your Senior Project/ Internship at the Nature Center?
2. What 3 skills would you like to get out of the experience?
3. How does this fit into your future career or educational goals?

YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION INCLUDES:

• Senior Project Internship Cover Sheet
• Nature Center Volunteer Application (online submission: https://shakerlakes.org/volunteer-application/)
• 2 Completed Reference Forms (online submission: https://www.jotform.com/build/60186339192156)
• Essays

Once application materials are returned, a date for an interview will be set. You will be notified of the status of your senior project after the interview.

Submit application materials & direct all questions to:
Kristina Arthur Volunteer Coordinator
Nature Center at Shaker Lakes
2600 South Park Boulevard Cleveland, Ohio 44122
216-321-5935 x237 or arthur@shakerlakes.org