



Job Announcement: **Camp Tule Counselor**



About the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation

Founded in 1989, the Laguna Foundation is a place-based organization focused on the Laguna de Santa Rosa and the surrounding wetland communities. We are a non-profit with the mission to restore and conserve the Laguna de Santa Rosa, and to inspire appreciation of this Sonoma County Wetland of International Importance. Our work focuses on improving the environment for wildlife and people, and teaching about the Laguna in schools and during workshops, classes, and outings for all ages.

Camp Tule Overview

Located at the Laguna Environmental Center in Santa Rosa, *Camp Tule* is a nature-based day camp for children aged 6-11 years. *Camp Tule* is a place where children grow creatively, and spend structured and unstructured time exploring and playing in nature. Each camp day is spent outdoors and filled with exploration, discovery, creativity and nature games all designed to connect children to the environment. Children learn about the plants and animals of the Laguna de Santa Rosa ecosystem in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Position Summary

The Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation seeks motivated and capable high school and college students to assist in the facilitation of *Laguna Explorers: Camp Tule*. Counselors will gain experience in effective strategies for working with children and strengthen their leadership and environmental education teaching skills.

Key Responsibilities:

- Exemplify and foster our core values of integrity, generosity of spirit, collaboration, innovation, passion, and sustainability to help promote healthy child development and to ensure a joyful week of connecting to nature through inquisitiveness for each camper.
- Assist Camp Naturalists in teaching environmental education activities;
- Initiate and lead nature-based games, crafts, group play, etc.;
- Supervise campers during both structured and unstructured activities and explorations;
- Keep campers safe and happy by using positive motivation techniques, work within the Camp prescribed codes of conduct, and follow all COVID-19 safety guidelines;
- Attend morning and afternoon meetings with all Camp staff to reflect, plan, and prepare for the day's activities.

Benefits of being a Camp Tule Counselor:

- Spend time outdoors in a beautiful location, having fun, and getting exercise and fresh air;
- Learn about the Laguna wetlands;
- Build environmental education techniques in a supportive and friendly setting;
- Practice field teaching, gain leadership skills, and work experience;
- Gain experience working with children and being part of a team.

Minimum Qualifications

- Must be 15 years of age or more;
- Positive attitude with an enthusiastic desire to be a role-model, friend, and teacher to children;
- Experience, interest, and comfort working with children;
- Demonstrated emotional maturity and cooperative spirit;
- Demonstrated patience, compassion, and the ability to remain calm under pressure;
- Ability to undertake high-levels of responsibility.
- Must pass a criminal background check prior to employment (if 18 years or older).

Physical Requirements

- Ability to perform physical tasks such as walking, running, or hiking over rough terrain, approximately 5 miles over the course of the day;
- Comfortable working in variable weather conditions, with the potential to encounter poisonous plants and stinging and biting insects;
- Vision abilities include close vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to focus;
- Ability to communicate effectively to campers in 1st-6th grade in order to provide necessary instructions, and apply appropriate behavior-management techniques in a positive manner;
- Counselors must have reliable transportation to the Laguna Environmental Center each day and are expected to arrive ready to work by 8:00 AM and to remain on site until the conclusion of the work day unless prior arrangements have been made with the Camp Director.
 - NOTE: there is no bus service to the Laguna Environmental Center.
 - Address of worksite is 900 Sanford Rd, Santa Rosa 95401

Desired Qualifications:

- Interest in environmental education;
- Leadership skills or a desire to develop them;
- Bilingual skills a plus;
- Certification in CPR Training or First Aid Training;
- Experience participating in a club or on a sports team (or other activities outside of school);
- Previous camp experiences either as a camper or counselor in training.

Job Schedule & Time Commitment

Usual work day is from 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM as scheduled below.

- **Camp Staff Training:** Wednesday, July 7 through Friday, July 9.
- **Set-up:** Monday, July 12.
 - Session 1: Tuesday July 13 through Friday, July 16.
- **Prep day:** Monday, July 19.
 - Session 2: Tuesday, July 20 through Friday, July 23.
 - Session 3: Monday, July 26 through Thursday, July 29.
- **Camp Clean-up:** Friday, July 30.
- Optional, paid environmental stewardship work and learning experience: Monday, August 2 through Wednesday, August 4.

Compensation:

The hourly rate will be \$15.50/hour. This is a temporary, part-time position with a defined end date of employment. Counselors are not eligible for participation in the Foundation's employer-sponsored benefits package.

Application Process:

Please complete and submit the Camp Tule Counselor Job Application. Do not submit a photo. **The deadline to apply is Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 11:59 PM.** We will confirm receipt of your application. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview.

- By email: jobs@lagunafoundation.org with "Camp Tule Counselor" in the subject line
- By mail: Laguna Foundation, Attn: Camp Counselor Application, 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Contact Education Director Christine Fontaine with questions: email christine@lagunafoundation.org

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