

Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge

Outdoor Recreation Internship

Work Periods:

January 15 – April 30
May 15 – August 15
September 15 – December 31
(Dates are flexible)

Application Deadline:

November 1
March 1
July 1

Refuge Information: Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, located east of Orlando, FL, is a 140,000 - acre overlay of NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center. The refuge houses a spectacular variety of wildlife, including 16 federally listed species. Six distinct habitat types provide a patchwork of wildlife communities, including the rare Florida scrub habitat, wetland marshes teeming with aquatic and bird life, beach dunes supporting sea turtle nesting habitat and the pine flatwoods used by bald eagles. The refuge sits on the Atlantic flyway and serves as an important wintering area for thousands of migratory birds. Please visit our website at merrittisland.fws.gov for more information about the refuge and our programs.



Job Description: The refuge is seeking an intern to assist in outdoor recreation and visitor services. This person will be responsible for staffing and day-to-day management of a visitor center that receives roughly 70,000 visitors a year. Duties will include opening and closing the visitor center, assisting with interpretive and educational programs, developing fliers, press releases and brochures, coordinating special events, and assisting in the management of the volunteer program. This unique program offers the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the day-to-day operations of a major national wildlife refuge and obtain valuable skills in managing a visitor services program. Additional duties and opportunities are available based on experience and interests.

Benefits: Housing and a \$50 weekly stipend are provided for interns committing to at least 32 hours a week for a minimum of 10 weeks. Training and associated equipment are provided. This is an excellent opportunity to obtain the experience and training needed to apply for a job in outdoor recreation.

Internship Qualifications: We're seeking a motivated, people-oriented intern who has an interest in wildlife and conservation. This person should be able to work independently and as part of a team, have good verbal and written communication skills, be willing to speak in front of groups of all ages and backgrounds and perform limited maintenance and administration tasks. Intermediate computer skills are required. A background in outdoor recreation, biology, zoology, ecology, fisheries, wildlife management, education or similar fields or an interest in photography is helpful, but not required.

We look forward to speaking with you about an internship with us!

Contact us at: 321-861-0668 or merrittisland@fws.gov



Sincerely,
Nancy Corona, Refuge Ranger