



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Summer Intern Program

Visitor Services / Park Ranger



Are you looking for a dynamic experience this summer? Looking to improve your resume to be more competitive in the job market? Looking to work with and learn from professionals in the natural resources and visitor services fields? Wanting to gain hands-on, real world experience in interpretation, environmental education, recreation planning, and operating a Visitor Center? Then our **Summer Intern Program** is for you!

Location: *Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge & Wetland Management District (Refuge/WMD)* in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan area is just down the street from the Mall of America but is a haven to bald eagles, river otters, migratory birds, and a variety of other wildlife. The Refuge comprises over 14,000 acres which lie in multiple main Units along a 34-mile stretch of the Minnesota River. The habitat is a mixture of wetlands, floodplain and upland forest, oak savanna and prairie.

Duties: *Interns will get hands on, real world experience* working with and assisting professional interpretive and visitor services staff in a diversity of tasks. Main tasks included, but are not limited to, assisting in staffing large interactive Visitor Center that includes a 125 seat auditorium, two learning classrooms, a small art gallery and interpretive bookstore. Assisting with leading environmental education and interpretive programs, helping plan and facilitate special events, and assisting with recreation planning. Independent Study Projects and college credits available. Schedule may include weekend duties with other staff members.



Benefits: *Stipends + College Credit + Possible Free Housing*

Free housing may be available in a new dorm located amidst the prairie of our Rapids Lake Unit in Jordan, Minnesota. Although government vehicles will be provided for official duties, a personal vehicle is needed for non-duty activities. **Stipend** of \$100 per week. **College Credit** if you need to fulfill internship credit requirements at individual universities, including assigning independent projects. Summer internships generally run 12 weeks from late May through August, but can be adjusted.



Qualifications: *Interested applicants* should have excellent verbal/writing skills, be able to work with the public and students from a diversity of backgrounds, be able to work independently or in small groups, and have course work and an interest in interpretation, environmental education, recreation planning, natural resources or a related field. Basic computer skills and a valid driver's license are required. More than one Intern position may be filled.

To Apply: *The following must be received by February 15, 2009:* 1) a one-page cover letter describing personal background and interests, 2) a detailed resume noting education, experience, and skills, 3) unofficial college transcripts, 4) two letters of recommendation including the name, affiliation, address, telephone, and e:mail address of each person writing a letter.

Information should be sent to: **Beth Ullenberg, Supervisory Park Ranger**
Minnesota Valley NWR
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Bloomington, MN 55425
952-858-0712 email: beth_ullenberg@fws.gov