

JOIN OUR **2025** TEAM!

Now Hiring: Field Instructors

Job Duties:

Lead multi-day backcountry expeditions and activities including:

- **BACKPACKING**
- **ROCK CLIMBING**
- **CANOEING**
- **ROPES COURSE**

Additional Benefits:

- **FREE Room & Board**
- **Professional development opportunities**
- **Community of like-minded outdoor folks!**
- **Pro-deals!**

Apply now!

Send a **cover letter** and **resume:**

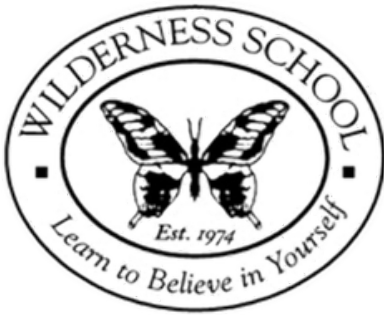
✉ Wilderness.Journey@ct.gov

☎ (860) 653 - 8059

Visit our [website](#) for more information!



Full Job description



Join our 2025 team!

Wilderness School



Seasonal Field Instructor
East Hartland, CT

WHO ARE WE?

Located in East Hartland in the north-central part of Connecticut, Wilderness School (WS) is a positive youth development program for Connecticut adolescents and young people ages 13-21. Supported by the CT Department of Children and Families, WS offers outdoor, experiential, and adventure-based activities of hiking, backpacking, rock-climbing, canoeing, ropes/challenge course, service learning, conservation/trail work, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and winter camping. Our “Challenge by Choice” adventure-based activities are designed to enhance the broader social services network of CT. Our goal is to create a dynamic team of professionals to facilitate these transformative experiences for our students in the field whether it be short courses (1-4 days) or longer expeditions (5-20 days).

POSITION SUMMARY

Wilderness School is seeking compassionate, motivated, and dedicated individuals – leaders, role models, mentors, facilitators, educators, team players, outdoor enthusiasts – who have a strong desire and passion to help young people ages 13-21 discover their best qualities and develop a positive, capable sense of self. We are hiring for the following:

Field Expedition Instructor

- Responsible for safety, facilitation, and supervision throughout all program activities ranging from 1-day to 20-day courses.

Base Camp Instructor

- Responsible for facilitation and risk management of 1-day courses and shorter expeditions. Provides base camp and in field support throughout courses as part of a basecamp support team.

Logistician

- Provides base camp and field support throughout courses. Specialized duties include: facilitating rock climbing and high ropes programming, equipment issue/de-issue, repair, maintenance, and inventory.

Please note: All applicants apply under “Wilderness School Seasonal Instructor”. Depending on interest and experience, employees may be selected for specialized duties (i.e. enrollment, kitchen staff, and food packing).

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Trip Leading and Logistics

- Plan, prepare, and facilitate all outdoor course activities
- Teach backcountry hard skills (i.e., gear organization, navigation, knots, cooking, LNT, etc.)
- Provide structure through daily itineraries and rituals

Group Facilitation

- Foster positive group and individual dynamics, manage conflict, and encourage resilience among participants
- Empower participants to believe in themselves, solve problems, and build leadership skills through outdoor challenges
- Promote stewardship and responsibility of self, group, and gear among crew

Risk Management

- Ensure physical and emotional safety of participants throughout course
- Effectively assess and manage risk while enforcing program policies and procedures

REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree is preferred – *Professional level training and work experience as an experiential educator/facilitator may be considered in lieu of bachelor's degree.*
- Current Wilderness First Responder or Wilderness First Aid
- CPR Certification
- Lifeguard/Waterfront training
- Driver's license
- Current PCIA or AMGA certification or experience preferred ***(for Logistics/Climbing Specialists)**
- Experience and comfortability facilitating people-oriented teambuilding activities
- Experience and ability to lead and support groups on multi-day backcountry trips
- Ability to assess and manage risk effectively
- Experience working with adolescents and youth ages 13-21
- Ability to adapt quickly, problem solve, have a positive team attitude, and role model resilience in the mist of challenging circumstances
- Ability to find the best in others and help them see it for themselves
- Strong attention to detail and initiative in a fast-paced work environment
- Must be able to attend staff training (June 2 - 20th)
- Ability to work a per diem, flexible schedule as training and course schedule demands, including rotation of on-call responsibilities

*** Wilderness school provides necessary training for all staff. We are seeking individuals with outdoor education and leadership experience. However, if you are adaptable, eager to learn from experience, and show sound judgement, we will find a great spot for you to learn, grow, and contribute on our team!**

IMPORTANT DATES

SPRING SEASON (April - May)

- Approximately 35-40 per diem workdays
- Compensation: **\$6,000 - \$7,400**

**Spring Season hires typically stay on throughout the summer.*

SUMMER SEASON (June - August)

- Approximately 38-55 per diem workdays
- Compensation: **\$8,200 - \$10,000**

**Opportunity for Fall Season employment.*

FALL SEASON (September - November)

- Approximately 35-40 per diem workdays
- Compensation: **\$6,000 - \$7,400**

**Fall Season hires have typically worked a previous season.*

Please note: There will be a **mandatory** staff training from **June 2, 2025 - June 13, 2025** for all summer hires.

COMPENSATION

- Per diem rates (starting at \$171-185/day) are based on the position applied for and experience of the applicant.

BENEFITS

- Modest Housing
- Meals provided
- Community of like-minded outdoor individuals
- Professional development opportunities (trainings & certifications)
- Pro-deals for outdoor clothing, gear, and equipment from various brands

APPLY

Please email the required documents to: WildernessJourney@ct.gov

- **Resume**
- **Cover Letter**

For more information...

- Call us: 860-653-8059
- Visit our Facebook page: State of Connecticut Wilderness School
- Check out our website: [Wilderness School \(ct.gov\)](http://WildernessSchool.ct.gov)