

ECO AmeriCorps Host Site Application 2022-'23

Since 2015, ECO has enjoyed working with an inspiring list of conservation partners in providing environmental leaders a paid opportunity to serve Vermont communities. ECO AmeriCorps values all voices and identities in the conservation space. We seek to uplift and engage diversity, equity and inclusion commitments in service and in our state. Thank you for your interest in joining us!

For more information on host site application supporting documents:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/administration-innovation/eco/current-host-organizations>

Contact:

dustin.bowman@vermont.gov

802-461-5222

ECO AmeriCorps Living Stipend:

\$21,335 (full-time members)

\$11,295 (half-time members)

Host Site cost based on # of full-time employees:

Full-Time (1,700 hours over 11 months)

0-3 \$7,500

3-10 \$8,400

>10 \$9,800

Half-Time (900 hours over 6 months)

\$4,900 regardless of size

Quarter-Time (450 hours over 3 months)

\$2,450 regardless of size

Service Site Responsibilities

- Provide host site match based on organizational size
- Participate in ECO member recruitment, confirm member selection, arrange site training, member supervision and support throughout term of service, other forms and documentation as required by AmeriCorps, reviews bi-weekly member timesheets, mileage reimbursement for service-related travel.
- Supervisor must attend AmeriCorps supervisor orientation (or make special arrangements).
- Applicants must submit a Certificate of Insurance, indicating that the entity or entities have met the insurance requirements listed in Attachment C (see risk assessment document).

Full-Time Member Benefits*

Living Stipend: \$21,335 Education Award: \$6,495

Other Benefits: Professional development training, networking opportunities, health care, child care assistance, program support, mileage/meals reimbursement for ECO AmeriCorps-related travel.

*Benefits for half-time and part-time members are prorated.

VT-DEC administers the member's living stipend, health care benefits, child care benefits, timesheets, activity reports, and other AmeriCorps and employee-related benefits and documentation.

Organization Name *

Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center

Organization Address *

505 Lake Street, Burlington, VT 05401

Supervisor Name and Title *

John Nagle

Email *

john@communitysailingcenter.org

Phone number *

(802) 864-2499

Which hosting category are you applying to? Note: ECO prefers full-time members for the vast majority of our program opportunities. Please contact Coordinator dustin.bowman@vermont.gov with questions. *

- Full-Time (September-August)
- Half-Time (flexible)
- Quarter-Time (May-August)

How many ECO Service Members are you applying to host? *Note* The program looks to disperse capacity builders geographically and by experience. Consideration will be given to those that can demonstrate unique need. *

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Host Site Contribution Method *

- Lump Sum
- Quarterly, *program preference is for one-time payment (reach out with questions)

Please provide a brief description of your role at your organization. *

As the Program Director for the Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center, I work to develop our youth and adult programming. I oversee both our youth camps and adult learn to sail programs as well as our mission driven programs (Floating Classrooms, Women in Wind, Adaptive Sailing and Leadership). I oversee a seasonal staff of about 30 full-time and part-time sailing instructors, waterfront coordinators and office coordinators. I run the day of logistics for our youth camps and provide support to both staff and our campers. I work with our Executive Director and our Operations Director to design our annual budget and I assist our Grant Manager with any programmatic data that they need for grant writing purposes. We partner with many different for-profit and non-profit organizations to get as many people out on the water as we can. I manage this growing list of over 100 partners.

What is the title of the position you are requesting? *

Education and Outreach Coordinator

Describe your proposed service position. Please outline the role. *

The Education and Outreach Coordinators primary role in the organization is the coordination and execution of all aspects of the CSC's Floating Classrooms program, Burlington School Food Project free lunch program, Lay Monitoring with the Lake Champlain Committee and to assist with the CSC volunteer program. The responsibilities of this position may include coordinating with teachers to deliver our Floating Classrooms program, implementing and improving program curriculum, teaching lessons on environmental science and lake ecology, and analyzing data from our mission based programs.

What are the essential functions that the applicant must be able to perform? These may be listed in bullet form. *

Floating Classroom Planning & Implementation

Responsible for the organization, development, operation and coordination of Floating Classrooms. This includes, but is not limited to, providing vision, designing and implementing curriculum, collecting and analyzing outcome data, recruiting community partners and participants, meeting with community partners, training program staff members, and conducting presentations and trainings in the community.

Program oversight includes the following responsibilities:

- Budgeting and Financial Planning
- Planning and Design (curriculum development)
- Outreach, Recruitment and Partnership Development and Cultivation
- Lead Instructor for On Land Lessons
- Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting of all program implementation and outcomes

Burlington School Food Project

- Responsible for picking up the meals daily
- Place weekly food orders with the BSFP
- Communicate with families of campers about the program
- Oversee lunchtime meal distribution, daily documentation and end of season reporting

Water Quality Monitoring

- Lay Monitoring with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to provide data collections for phosphorous, chlorophyll and turbidity
 - Weekly Cyanobacteria Monitoring with Lake Champlain Committee to provide visual information on cyanobacteria presence in Burlington Bay
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What are the secondary functions? These are projects or tasks that may be accomplished as time allows or applicant's interests evolve. *

Volunteer Program & Event Implementation

- Organize and coordinate the Volunteer Program: program development, recruitment and training, supervision and reporting in conjunction with the Office Manager
 - Coordinate, manage, and implement Water Works Fair, including but not limited to: partnership communication, marketing and promotion (with other CSC Staff), participant experience and feedback
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What are the desired qualification for this position? *

- Minimum of a Bachelor's degree in science, education or a related field
- Experience developing and implementing programs and curricula
- Professional experience or coursework in teaching environmental education
- Interest in improving water quality in Lake Champlain through education
- Exemplary interpersonal and communication skills (verbal and written)
- Flexibility, able to balance multiple competing priorities
- Experience in research and evaluation methods
- Comfort speaking and presenting in front of groups
- Experience working with youth between the ages of 6 and 18
- Knowledge of Vermont's landscape, culture, environment, ecosystems (or desire to to gain knowledge)
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team
- Comfort on and near the water
- Possess a valid driver's license and have access to a vehicle

Will the member have access to "vulnerable populations"? This includes youth, elderly and individuals with disabilities. *

Yes

No

What initiatives does your organization take to support diversity, equity, inclusion, and environmental justice and how will the ECO member be included or supported in this work? *

The Community Sailing Center does considerable work in these areas. Starting in 2021, we began our Sailing Diversity Access initiative, which provides 10 campers between 11-15 who identify as BIPOC a 100% fully paid and supported summer camp experience of up to 4 weeks. Through this initiative we aim to create new summer opportunities and recreation options for kids who come from diverse communities and families. Importantly, this opportunity does not end after this summer! The Community Sailing Center promises to provide full scholarship support participants over the next 4 years who decide to continue their growth as sailors. This pathway goes from learning to sail, to racing in high school, to becoming a junior instructor. The ECO AmeriCorps member would support this program through the administration of the free lunch program and by teaching/supporting lessons to these students on environmental education.

The ECO AmeriCorps member would also be in charge of leading our Floating Classrooms program which provides lake access and environmental education to hundreds of Vermont school children annually.

The free lunch program also provides food security to all campers within the program. Food security is a key environmental and economic justice issue which the Community Sailing Center proudly supports.

Please provide information that provides a compelling need for the proposed position (data, statistics, resources, etc.) *

The health of Lake Champlain is vital to the cultural and economic development of our region and our community. Many of the solutions to issues facing Lake Champlain require individual and collective behavior change, yet most in our community are disconnected from this remarkable resource increasing the importance of our programming and efforts to be inclusive.

The CSC last collected data from our program participants in 2016 using an evaluation developed by the PEAR Institute. In that evaluation, we learned that our Floating Classrooms program increases student interest levels in STEM education. In 2016, 73% of students reported an increased interest in science and 99% reported they believe it's important to keep Lake Champlain clean. Part of the ECO AmeriCorps role will be helping us gather and synthesize recent data for the future so that our statistics are more current.

Describe the supervisor's leadership experience. Will they have adequate time to manage and mentor an ECO AmeriCorps member? *

Yes. The ECO AmeriCorps will be supervised by our program director who has an extensive history of staff management and education at the college level.

Describe how your organization has adapted to COVID-19. What communication strategies and tools have you implemented? i.e. teleservice, remote service, etc. *

Because our field is in outdoor education and recreation, it is difficult for us to make too much of our direct work with students and customers remote. However, we have made much of our internal work remote and have added additional safety measures to our operations to ensure the safety of our staff and participants.

Describe networking opportunities that will be available to your service member. *

The Community Sailing Center hosts regular events with many partner organizations in the area. The ECO AmeriCorps would have access to considerable networking via these events through their role in supporting the volunteer program. Additionally, an ECO AmeriCorps member would have an opportunity to lots of networking within the Vermont school system as they coordinate with teachers and administrators in regards to the Floating Classrooms program.

Is there someone in your organization's network that might be interested in mentoring your ECO service member? *Note, 1-2 hours per month, not required

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Does your organization currently host or plan to host an AmeriCorps member from another program? If yes, briefly describe the duties of this other position. *

No

Please list any clothing/equipment the member will need that you cannot provide (e.g., hiking boots, waders, raingear, etc.). Is a reliable vehicle expected? As the host site, you are responsible for providing all tools and technical equipment needed for the position (e.g., computer, phone, GPS, etc.). *

No specialty clothing or equipment is needed for this position that the Community Sailing Center cannot provide.

Are you willing to search with program staff over the summer to help your ECO member secure affordable and safe housing?

Yes

No

Maybe

Performance Measures

Provide approximate impact numbers (e.g. miles of rivers treated) in each focus area. Refer to the 2021-2022 Performance Goals document for an explanation on each focus area.

Document can be found here: <https://dec.vermont.gov/administration-innovation/eco/current-host-organizations/prospectivehostsites>

Water Quality and Trail Improvement - Please project Impact Numbers on miles of river/stream/trail treated and/or improved. *

Hard to estimate, but we support the entirety of Burlington Bay and Lake Champlain as a whole.

Land Conservation and Remediation - Please project impact numbers on acres of public parks or other public, publicly managed or tribal lands improved. *

n/a

Community Engagement Outreach and Education - Please project number of individuals receiving environmental stewardship education or training. *

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