



IJAMS NATURE CENTER VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIPS

Are you looking to gain experience or to learn more about nature-related careers? Ijams Nature Center is searching for seasonal interns 18+ to assist the natural resource management and education departments. All of Ijams' internship positions are volunteer non-paid positions; internships may be eligible for school credit, pending your school's approval. Ijams Nature Center can only host a limited number of interns each season, so the selection process is competitive.

Ijams Nature Center is always looking for volunteers too. If you're not able to commit to a full internship or if you are not offered a formal internship, please consider volunteering.



WEED WARRIORS INTERNSHIP



RIVER INTERNSHIP



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP

WEED WARRIORS INTERNSHIP



Duration: 6-8 weeks | 20-40 hours a week

Department: Natural Resource Management

Essential Functions of Position

1. Assist with invasive species removal efforts throughout the grounds.
2. Learn to identify the various invasive plants.
3. Learn and practice various removal techniques specific to each invasive plant species.
4. Work with untrained volunteers during single days of service, providing instructions as necessary.
5. If interested, adopt a space at Ijams in which to coordinate invasive plant removal efforts.

Ijams Nature Center is committed to maintaining a thriving greenspace for residents and visitors. This is accomplished through well-maintained trails and enhancements such as play areas and gardens. Ijams Weed Warrior Interns play a vital role in this work by strengthening local biodiversity through the removal of invasive plants. Under the supervision of the Natural Resources team, Weed Warriors interns will learn to identify invasive plant species and will be trained regarding the removal/control techniques specific to each plant. Control techniques include manual removal and herbicide application, as appropriate.

Minimum Requirements

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Pay a one-time fee of \$15 (helps offset the cost of the volunteer t-shirt).
3. Capable of walking distances of one to three miles over varying terrain and in various weather conditions.
4. Manage schedule and track hours through the volunteer software (must have Internet access).
5. Maintain a professional conduct of respect to Ijams visitors, staff, and other volunteers at all times.
6. Be open to receiving suggestions and feedback from staff supervisors.
7. Leave work site clean and return all materials to their proper place.

RIVER INTERNSHIP



Duration: 6-8 weeks | 20-40 hours a week

Department: Natural Resource

Essential Functions of Position

1. Assist with picking up trash while standing on the deck of a 24-foot jon boat.
2. Assist with trash collection along riverbanks.
3. Assist with collecting water samples as needed.
4. Assist with seasonal work and special projects as needed.*

* On occasion, River Interns may be asked to work on special projects. This may include cleaning and maintaining the boats or repairing floating booms. River Interns will receive appropriate training for those projects.

Ijams Nature Center is committed to protecting and caring for the natural water resources in the community it serves. The Ijams River Team accomplishes this through weekly monitoring of the 11-mile section of the Tennessee River that runs through Knoxville, and by removing trash and debris from the river, its banks, and the booms that prevent waste from entering the river from several creeks. Ijams also works with other steward-minded organizations to keep the community's waterways free of trash. River Interns play an important role in this work by assisting the Ijams River Captain and other River Team members in collecting trash and debris from the Tennessee River as well as a quarry lake, ponds, and creeks.

Minimum Requirements

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Pay a one-time fee of \$15 (helps offset the cost of the volunteer t-shirt).
3. Commit to monthly volunteer work.
4. Manage a schedule and track hours through volunteer software (must have Internet access).
5. Maintain a professional conduct of respect to Ijams visitors, staff, and other volunteers at all times.
6. Be open to receiving suggestions and feedback from staff supervisors.
7. Leave the work site clean and return all materials to their proper place.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP



Duration: 10 weeks | 20-40 hours a week

Department: Education

Essential Functions of Position

1. Assist the Volunteer & Administrative Coordinator with the logistics and creation of volunteer events.
2. Assist with volunteer outreach, trainings, and other tasks as needed for the operation of the volunteer program.
3. Lead volunteer workdays and events.
4. Assist with media coverage and outreach of the volunteer program through photography, videography, and graphic design.

Ijams Nature Center is on a mission to encourage stewardship of the natural world by providing an urban greenspace for people to learn about and enjoy the outdoors through engaging experiences. Volunteers further this mission by not only expanding Ijams' capacity beyond the work of paid staff, but also embodying this mission. The Leadership Development Intern gives support to the staff and volunteers of Ijams by providing assistance and leadership to the volunteer program in a timely and professional manner.

Minimum Requirements

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Pay a one-time fee of \$15 (helps offset the cost of the volunteer t-shirt).
3. Commit to monthly volunteer work.
4. Manage a schedule and track hours through volunteer software (must have Internet access).
5. Be professional and respect Ijams visitors, staff and other volunteers at all times.
6. Be open to receiving suggestions and feedback from staff supervisors.
7. Leave the work site clean and return all materials to their proper place.
8. Must present a well-groomed appearance.

How to Apply

**VOLUNTEER
INTERNSHIP
APPLICATION PERIODS**

WINTER/SPRING: JAN 1-20

SUMMER: APRIL 1-20

FALL/WINTER: JULY 1-20



FIRST

Contact Ijams Volunteer Coordinator Madelyn Collins at mcollins@ijams.org for an application.



SECOND

Write a 2-3 paragraph statement on why you want to intern with Ijams Nature Center.



THIRD

If invited, interview for your internship placement.