

CURATOR - NATURE MUSEUM
(CITY OF RYE)

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Operates and maintains a nature museum; develops and implements associated interpretative programs; does related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision is responsible for the development, operation and maintenance of a nature museum and of interpretative programs designed to impart to visitors an understanding of the natural and historical features of a museum. The creation and implementation of programs applicable for children of all ages is an essential element of the position. Independent judgment must be exercised in maintaining exhibits and in the daily operation of the programs. Supervision may be exercised over a small number of volunteer and part-time personnel.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Develops appropriate curriculum and programs in environmental education for people of all ages, from pre-school children to senior citizens;

Schedules and instructs interpretative programs:

Operates and maintains equipment and exhibits of the nature museum;

Assists in the identification, maintenance and collection of museum specimens of pressed plants and ferns, insects, birds, animals and mounted species of animal life native to the area;

Assists students and interested persons through workshop demonstrations and activities in seed plantings, nature crafts, birdhouse building and wreath making within the natural sciences;

Assists in the promotion of a nature museum's interpretative programs.

Prepares lectures and talks on natural and historical features for organized groups;

Maintains records of the museum's collections;

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge of the principles of the natural sciences; ability to use the equipment related to the natural sciences; ability to plan and develop programs for groups of all ages; ability to maintain scientific arrangements, displays and exhibits; ability to train volunteers; ability to inspire others to become interested in the natural sciences; ability to talk before community groups; ability to develop, maintain and promote excellent public relations; good professional judgment; initiative; physical condition commensurate with the duties of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and either: (a) graduation from a recognized college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Natural Science, Environmental Science, Biology, Ecology, Conservation or related field and six months of experience working with children; or (b) a Bachelor's Degree in Education or related field and six months of experience working in a nature center or outdoor or museum operation; or (c) graduation from a two year post high school in a field as described in (a) and three years of experience as specified in (a); or (c) five years if experience as stated in (b); or (e) a satisfactory equivalent combination of the foregoing training and experience.

Note: Verifiable, relevant volunteer experience may be substituted, on a year for year basis for the above-required experience.