



Seasonal Science Educator MOUNT ST. HELENS INSTITUTE

Position:	Seasonal Science Educator
Compensation:	\$17.00 hourly wage
Term of Employment:	Hourly; non-exempt; temporary; seasonal: 40 hours/week April 11 - November 4, 2022. 1 week planned, unpaid time off. Some weekend, overnight work and overnight travel required.
Closing Date:	February 13 th , 2022
Start Date:	April 11 th , 2022 or June 2022

ABOUT US: The [Mount St. Helens Institute](#) (MSHI) advances understanding and stewardship of the Earth through science, education and exploration of volcanic landscapes. We are united in our common passion for Mount St. Helens and connecting folks of all backgrounds with science, the outdoors and each other. We value diverse perspectives, good challenges, adventure, fun, partnership and community. MSHI is the official nonprofit partner of Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. As such, we work closely with Monument staff and operate under a US Forest Service special use permit.

MSHI fundamentally believes that its employees are a valuable source of ideas for improving operations and making the workplace more interesting and attractive. We ensure that all employees work in a positive, supportive, empowering environment free of discrimination. All candidates applying for this position will be reviewed without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin, veteran or marital status, sexual orientation or physical ability. We are an equal opportunity employer and provider. For more information on our commitment, please review the MSHI's [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Statement](#).

ARE YOU:

- Passionate about science and the outdoors?
- Dedicated to working with diverse youth?
- Looking to build your resume in informal science education, non-profits, event planning and facilities management

SUMMARY: The Mount St. Helens Institute Science Educator supports our science education and rental programs including day and overnight programs for youth ages 6-18, their families and their teachers. The Science Educator will typically work with a small group (<5) of individuals under the direction of the Science Education Manager and with the support of the Science Education Coordinator. The Science Educator will lead hikes and learning activities primarily outdoors, host rental groups, and staff public events. Read about our education programs at <https://www.mshinstitute.org/learn/>. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, programming may change depending on health guidance and community interest in programs. *One to three positions will be available.*

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Implementation: Education Programs (~65% of time)

- Collaborate with the education team to plan, prepare for, and implement programs and activities to best meet the groups' goals and needs
- Maintain a safe, friendly and fun learning environment for all
- Lead/co-lead science activities, hikes, and other outdoor learning [activities](#)
- Conduct surveys and other evaluations (quantitative and qualitative)
- Serve as role model for students, campers and peers: use positive behavior guidance strategies and display maturity, responsibility, flexibility, enthusiasm, and sound judgment
- Communicate with teachers, group coordinators, and parents
- Promptly and professionally respond to risks, complaints, and injuries
- Actively and positively contribute to program debrief meetings

Implementation: Rentals & Events (~5% of time)

- Provide site tours, expectations and checkout instructions to rental groups upon arrival
- Deliver excellent customer service to guests during their stay
- Support events at the Science and Learning Center with tasks such as event setup, cleanup and leading activities
- Actively and positively contribute to program debrief meetings

Program Support (~30% of time)

- Work in a flexible and cooperative manner with all MSHI and partner staff and volunteers
- Maintain and organize program supplies
- File waivers, evaluations and other program documentation
- Provide overnight on-call support as needed
- Support the ongoing development of the MSHI youth education curriculum
- Support the Cook/Custodian with inventory, shopping, preparing, and serving meals to guests
- Support the Cook/Custodian with cleaning facility
- Drive vehicles for MSHI activities, including occasionally driving program participants

As a small non-profit, we all wear many hats. Other duties may be assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Demonstrated 1+ year experience teaching and leading outdoor, science-based education programs for youth, such as at a camp or education center;
- Knowledge of Leave No Trace practices and environmental awareness;
- Working knowledge of natural history;
- Demonstrate personal and professional commitment to equity, inclusion and cultural competency;
- Excellent communication skills including public speaking, writing and editing;
- Demonstrated computer competency;
- Enthusiasm for the mission of the Mount St. Helens Institute;
- Be able to work effectively with minimal supervision.
- Be willing to be coached and open to feedback.
- First aid and CPR (or higher) certification or willingness to obtain;
- Have a valid driver's license with an acceptable driving record for the past three years; and

ABILITIES: Some days will require office and computer work for 8+hours. Some days will require more than 10 hours per day while standing and walking. Ability to frequently travel 3 miles on trails while carrying weight, commonly less than 10 lb but up to 20 lb. Ability to occasionally move heavy objects, such as bins containing program gear. Work will frequently be conducted outdoors in a variety of weather conditions and terrain. Driving to locations around Mount St. Helens (up to 3 hours) is common. The Science Educator must possess a valid driving license and pass a criminal background check.

WORKING HOURS: This is a temporary seasonal position. The work schedule will vary based on the program schedule; the schedule will be announced at least 2 weeks in advance. On occasion work weeks may be either much shorter or much longer than 40 hours; on average, the Science Educator will work 40 hours/week. Hours over 40 actually worked in a single workweek will be eligible for overtime pay. Some days will be longer than 10 hours. Occasional overnight work, overnight travel, and weekend work will be required. The Cook/Custodian will occasionally be on-call to respond to situations.

LOCATION: Most of this position will be based at the [Science and Learning Center at Coldwater](#), 40 miles east of Castle Rock, WA on the northwest side of Mount St. Helens. Regular travel around Mount St. Helens and neighboring communities will be necessary with overnight camping at various field sites required, including MSHI's Field Camp near [Windy Ridge](#). Both the Science and Learning Center at Coldwater and Field Camp are in a remote location with little cell service. Housing may be available.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: MSHI shall conduct a background investigation prior to making a conditional offer of employment or re-hire. All offers of employment are contingent upon a satisfactory background investigation. The background investigation may include, but is not limited to the following, as permitted by law: social security verification (social security number, date of birth, former addresses); prior employment verification; personal and professional references; education verification; motor vehicle records; and criminal history. The following factors will be considered for applicants with a criminal history: nature of the crime and its relationship to the position; time since the conviction; number (if more than one) of convictions; whether hiring, transferring or promoting the applicant would pose an unreasonable risk to the organization, its employees, volunteers, partners and program participants.

COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS: Protecting the health and safety of our team and community is our highest priority. MSHI follows federal, state and county mandates and guidelines for mitigating the spread and infection of COVID-19. All employees are required to be vaccinated, or may request a medical or religious exemption and undergo regular testing. All staff, volunteers and program participants must complete a COVID-19 screening questionnaire prior to working with others or at a MSHI worksite or attending a MSHI program.

TO APPLY

Please send the following items to apply@mshinstitute.org no later than February 13th, 2022 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time:

- Email subject line: Seasonal Science Educator
- Cover Letter: titled with the following format "Last Name First Name Cover Letter"
- Resume: titled with the following format "Last Name First Name Resume"

To learn more about the Mount St. Helens Institute and our programs, visit <https://www.mshinstitute.org/>