

# **PUBLIC LANDS STEWARDS**

## **AMERICORPS POSITION DESCRIPTION**



**POSITION TITLE:** Trail Steward (2 positions)

**PARTNER ORGANIZATION:** Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

**WEBSITE:** [www.fs.fed.us/R6/wenatchee](http://www.fs.fed.us/R6/wenatchee)

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 600 Sherbourn St, Leavenworth, WA 98826

**SERVICE DATES:** May 2, 2022 to October 21, 2022 (940-hour position)

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**POSITION SUMMARY:** In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute (MAI), interns will spend the season participating in trail maintenance projects on motorized and non-motorized trails in the rugged Central Cascade Mountains. The Trail Stewards will perform logouts using both crosscut and chainsaws, brushing, drainage, tread work and other trails projects throughout the summer. Interns will be trained and work with our horse Packer to pack in the trail crew and partner groups such as Washington Trail Association. Opportunities may be available for mountain bike and motorbike logouts depending on skills and comfort level. Hitches are generally 8 days long (6 days off in between), working as a member of a small crew, with opportunities for solo trips as needed. Strong backcountry travel experience and skills are necessary for this position.

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (TO INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO):**

- Use tools safely to clear and maintain wilderness and non-wilderness trails. Tools include handsaws, axes, hoes, loppers, shovels, picks, and crosscut saws. Training is provided.
- Demonstrate and educate visitors on tread lightly, Leave-No-Trace ethics, and proper backcountry practices. Training will be provided.
- Clearly communicate with members of the public, volunteers, and Forest Service employees in a friendly and non-confrontational manner.
- Keep a daily log of service activities, trail survey data, and trail conditions.
- Live and work safely in the backcountry and set the example for others by observing and adhering to Wilderness regulations, guidelines, and ethics.
- Occasionally participate in special projects such as bridge building, campground maintenance, heavy trail maintenance projects, and hunter education or others to achieve district recreation program goals.
- Attend and complete all MAI/AmeriCorps trainings and service requirements including orientation and trainings.
- Complete and submit all necessary MAI/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Wear MAI or Service Site identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

### **POSITION REQUIREMENTS:**

#### **SERVICE SITE**

- Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record, and the ability to provide documentation.
- First Aid/CPR certified or willing to get certifications during program.
- Be physically fit, able to walk long distances (5-15 miles/day) carrying heavy loads (+55 pounds) with steep elevations gains.
- Travel, serve and live safely in mountainous wilderness settings and/or remote community settings, including proper and safe use of backpacking/camping equipment during trips.

- Serve alone and/or with many diverse people (land and resource managers, other Forest Service trail crew employees, volunteers) in both an office and field setting. Be able to communicate professionally with the various work groups.
- Able to proficiently and safely use hand tools and crosscuts for long periods and multiple consecutive days.
- Able to tolerate and maintain a positive attitude in extreme heat and cold; the season will start with snow on the ground and end with snow on the ground, in between it will be hot and buggy.
- Maintain regular and reliable attendance.
- Comply with all Partner Organization safety policies and procedures.

### AMERICORPS

- 21-30 years of age at beginning of service term.
- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
- Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving education award.
- Ability to commit to the full 25-week term of service.
- Attend mandatory virtual MAI Orientation the first week in May 2 - 4, 2022 and an Intern Career training the week of August 29<sup>th</sup> (TBD if it will be virtual or in-person).
- Selection, placement and retention are contingent upon passing the National Sex Offender Public Registry, state of service and state of residence criminal history check and a national FBI check. These are completed at no cost to the applicant.
- Participants are eligible to serve up to four terms of service and receive AmeriCorps Education awards for each term of service up to the value of two full time education awards only. Applicant cannot be enrolled in two AmeriCorps terms at the same time.
- **Must be fully vaccinated** against Covid-19 with the ability to provide documentation or have an approved medical or religious exemption prior to the start of the position. *Exemption forms can be found on our [website](#) and once submitted, they must go through a review and determination process before being approved.*
- **Must follow all Covid-19 policies** at the service site including any changes that are implemented throughout the course of the program. Policies may include masking/social distancing, remote/virtual work, altered field duties and other restrictions determined necessary to keep site staff, partners and the public safe. Accepting a position means accepting the current requirements and any updates to those requirements while enrolled in the program.

### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience with safe use of hand tools (this could include experience in farming, gardening, orchard work, landscaping, carpentry, construction, etc).
- Experienced in safely spending **extended** periods backpacking in the backcountry.
- Physically fit upon arrival, and able to jump right into the season hiking and carrying heavy packs on day one.
- Diverse recreational background – mountain biking, hiking, backpacking, horse riding, dirt biking, etc.
- A passion for and being involved with wilderness and non-wilderness stewardship.

### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- \$9,375 living allowance (\$375 weekly) paid over term of service. Interns are paid once a month, on the 10<sup>th</sup>.
- \$3,247.50 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)
- Loan Forbearance
- Child Care Reimbursement
- Live and work in a beautiful setting with many opportunities for outdoor recreation.
- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
- Provide meaningful service to the local community and environment.
- The Forest Service will provide most backpacking, camping equipment, and rain gear, or you may use your own if you prefer. However, you must provide your own leather hiking boots (required safety equipment) and clothing appropriate for the extremes of mountain weather (ex. layers and no cotton).

## HOUSING:

Housing is FREE and located at Lake Wenatchee across the street from the old Lake Wenatchee Ranger Station on Highway 207. Lake Wenatchee is approximately 30 minutes from Leavenworth (where you report to work) and 2 hours from Seattle. The bunkhouse has bedrooms, a full kitchen, eating area, living room and bathroom. No pets are allowed.

You can count on housemates living with you, as well as a mix of permanent and seasonal employees in other buildings on the compound. Bed frames and mattresses are provided, but you will need your own sheets and pillows. The kitchen is fully stocked with utensils, pots, pans, plates etc. There is a washer and dryer in the house, although you will need your own detergent. There is no television or internet at the lake. The closest Wi-Fi is at Midway Village and Grocery, 14193 Chiwawa Loop Road. There is cell phone service at the lake, but it can be spotty inside the buildings. Verizon usually offers the most reliable service in the area. You will have beach access about a 5-minute walk from your bunkhouse! It's an amazing spot to meet people, recreate and relax on days off. All tenants must sign and comply with agency housing policy (i.e. no alcohol, drugs, guns, or pets) and COVID-19 mitigations.

## TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

- Agency vehicles are available for work-related travel, including back and forth to the bunkhouse on work days.
- Interns must have their own vehicle to access supplies/equipment/town and to travel on days off.
- Work location is not accessible by public transportation.

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Leavenworth is a quaint town nestled east of the Cascade Mountain Range. There are two grocery stores, several restaurants/cafes/bars, banks, shopping, and a Farmers Market twice a week where you can get local and organic produce. Festivals and events happen frequently in town, especially on weekends. Everything is within walking distance of the Leavenworth Ranger Station. There are many hiking and biking trails close to Leavenworth and we can provide maps and more information on these upon your arrival. Leavenworth is also a well-known climbing, fishing, mountain biking, and white water rafting destination so don't forget your gear! Seattle is about a 2-hour drive west over Highway 2. There are many great things to see and do in and around the area.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION:

MAI celebrates equity, diversity, and inclusiveness and does not discriminate against any person or group based on race, ethnicity, culture, age, gender, sexual orientation, expression, gender identity, ability, national origin or ancestry, veteran status, social economic class, religion, professional status, pregnancy, or parents/guardians with children. MAI is committed to a diverse workplace and to supporting our Interns and staff with trainings and career development opportunities.

MAI provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation and/or alternative formats at any point in the employment process.

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## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Email the following documents to Erica Bingham at [erica@mtadamsinstitute.org](mailto:erica@mtadamsinstitute.org):

- Resume
- Cover Letter (One for each position applying to).
- Three Professional References – Information to include: Name, Title, Relation to you, email & phone number.
- Supplemental Questions:
  - What is your motivation for applying to this position?
  - What are you hoping to get out of this experience?

## PROCESS:

1. MAI screens application materials, conducts pre-interviews, and recommends qualified applicants for Service Site interviews.
2. Service Sites interview candidates, conduct reference checks, and recommend placement.
3. If position is offered, additional paperwork will be required.

***Due to Covid-19 parts of our programming may change***

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- More information can be found at [Public Lands Stewards Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.mtadamsinstitute.org/public-lands-stewards) or [mtadamsinstitute.org/public-lands-stewards](https://www.mtadamsinstitute.org/public-lands-stewards)
- Cover letter information can be found at <https://www.macslist.org/articles/cover-letters>

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**

**Erica Bingham**

Public Lands Stewards Program Coordinator

[erica@mtadamsinstitute.org](mailto:erica@mtadamsinstitute.org) | [mtadamsinstitute.org](https://www.mtadamsinstitute.org)

