



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

## Camp Tule Counselor-in-Training



Located at the Laguna Environmental Center in Santa Rosa, **Camp Tule** is a nature-based day camp for children ages 6-12. Camp Tule is a place where children grow creatively, and spend structured and unstructured time exploring, learning and playing in nature. Each camp day is spent outdoors and filled with exploration, discovery, creativity, and nature games all designed to connect children to the environment. Children learn about the plants and animals of the Laguna de Santa Rosa ecosystem in a supportive and encouraging environment.

### Who We Are

Founded in 1989, the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation is a place-based organization focused on the Laguna de Santa Rosa and the surrounding wetland communities. We are a non-profit with the mission to restore, conserve, and to inspire appreciation of this Sonoma County Wetland of International Importance. Our work focuses on improving the environment for wildlife and people, and teaching about the Laguna in schools and during workshops, classes, and outings for all ages.

Volunteer this summer and help create meaningful nature-based experiences for children. **Counselors-in-Training (CIT)** volunteer during Camp Tule sessions to help lead games and environmental education activities, and to create fun, safe and meaningful nature-based experiences for children while building their own leadership and job skills.

### Benefits of Being a Camp Tule Counselor-in-Training

- Spend time outdoors in a beautiful location, having fun, and getting exercise and fresh air.
- Learn about the Laguna de Santa Rosa wetlands.
- Learn environmental education techniques in a supportive and friendly setting.
- Practice leadership skills.
- Gain experience working with young campers and being part of a team.

### Key Accountabilities

- Exemplify and foster our core values of integrity, generosity of spirit, collaboration, innovation, passion, and sustainability to help promote healthy child development and to ensure a joyful week of connecting to nature through inquisitiveness for each camper.

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- Assist in supervising campers during both structured and unstructured activities and explorations.
- Assist Camp Naturalists and Counselors in teaching environmental education activities, playing nature-based games, crafts, and group play.
- Keep campers safe and happy by using positive motivation techniques, work within the Camp prescribed codes of conduct, and follow all safety guidelines.
- Attend morning and afternoon meetings with all Camp staff and volunteers to reflect, plan, and prepare for the day's activities.

### **Minimum Volunteer Requirements**

- Must be 13 years of age or older.
- Positive attitude with an enthusiastic desire to be a role-model, friend, and teacher to younger children.
- Interest and comfort interacting with younger children.
- Strong cooperation skills.
- Demonstrated patience, compassion, and the ability to remain calm under pressure.
- Capacity to assume accountability and collaborate within a team setting.

### **Other Desirable Qualifications**

- Interest in nature.
- Leadership skills or a desire to develop them.
- Experience taking care of children.
- Creative skills in music, art, crafting, etc.
- Experience participating in a club or on a sports team or other activities outside of school.
- Previous camp experiences either as a camper or Counselor-in-Training.
- Bilingual skills a plus.
- Certification in CPR Training or First Aid Training.



### **Physical Requirements**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by a volunteer to successfully perform the key accountabilities. Ability to perform physical tasks such as walking, running, or hiking over rough terrain, approximately 5 miles over the course of the day. Comfortable working in variable weather conditions, including cold, heat, and wind, with the potential to encounter plant pollens, poisonous plants, and stinging and biting insects including ticks. Vision abilities include close vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to focus. Ability to communicate effectively with campers ages 6-12 in order to provide necessary instructions, and apply positive behavior-management techniques.

### **Supervisory Responsibility**

CITs will support Camp Staff supervise Campers.

***More on third page.***

## Travel Requirements

CITs must have reliable transportation to the Laguna Environmental Center each day and are expected to arrive by 8:00 AM and to remain on site until the conclusion of the work day unless prior arrangements have been made with the Camp Director. NOTE: there is no bus service to Camp Tule. Address of Camp Tule is 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA.

## Time Commitment

Volunteers are asked to attend camp staff and volunteer training, and commit to volunteering during 1, 2, or 3 weeks of camp depending on the needs of Camp Tule and the availability of the Counselor-in-Training.

## Schedule

Volunteer hours are 8:00 am - 3:45 pm as scheduled below.

- Camp Staff/Volunteer Training (Required): Monday, June 17, and Tuesday, June 18, 2024
- Camp Session 1 (10 – 12 yo): Monday – Friday, June 24 – June 28
- Camp staff work days: Monday – Tuesday, July 1 – 2 (No camp this week)
- Camp Session 2 (6 – 9 yo): Monday – Friday, July 8 - 12
- Camp Session 3 (6 – 9 yo): Monday – Friday, July 15 - 19
- Camp Session 4 (6 – 9 yo): Monday – Friday, July 22 - 26
- Camp Debrief & Clean-up work days: Monday – Tuesday, July 29 – 30, 2024

## Compensation

This is a temporary, voluntary position with a defined beginning and end date.

## How To Apply

Please complete and submit the Camp Tule Counselor-in-Training Volunteer Application online at: [https://bit.ly/2024\\_Camp\\_Tule\\_CIT](https://bit.ly/2024_Camp_Tule_CIT) or follow the QR code below.

Do not submit a photo. Applications must be received by Monday, May 27, 2024 at 11:59 PM. We will confirm receipt of your application. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview to take place during the week of May 27, 2024.

Contact Education Director, Christine Fontaine, with questions.  
[christine@lagunafoundation.org](mailto:christine@lagunafoundation.org)

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