JOB DESCRIPTION
Animal Program Specialist

JOB SUMMARY
The Animal Program Specialist provides support in the husbandry of a diverse collection of animals that includes raptors, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. The animal program specialist is also responsible for engaging visitors through development and presentation of conservation-based educational programs featuring SNCO’s animal ambassadors. The qualified candidate will have a strong background in the biological or wildlife sciences field and experience in the care of raptors or herpetofauna. This position will also serve as an integral member of SNCO’s front-line team by assisting with the nature center’s visitor services operations.

This is a seasonal, 6-month (May – October) position and is scheduled for 32 - 40 hours/week. Work will include at least one weekend day per week and may include holidays. Compensation starts at $14.50/hour.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

• Provide daily care and enrichment for a diverse collection of animals including raptors, reptiles (including snakes), amphibians, honey bees, swans, and others. Daily tasks include, but are not limited to: cleaning animal habitats and work spaces, diet preparation and presentation; behavioral observations; record keeping; following all handling and training protocols of animals; and implementation of behavioral enrichment programs for animals.

• Assist with the maintenance of animal food, supplies, and equipment. Participate in animal care facilities maintenance and construction.

• Develop and deliver animal ambassador programs to various audiences including, students, families and adults, both on and offsite. Participate in other educational and media programs as needed.

• Contribute to the development and execution of informational/interpretive displays, signage, living and static exhibits.

• Assist with front-line operations by greeting and checking in visitors at the nature center and providing roving interpretation on campus.

• Train and work alongside volunteers in various areas including husbandry, education, groundskeeping.

• Respond to and advise local residents and visitors on wildlife and environmental issues.

• Participate in the development and execution of organization-wide special events including the annual Wildflower Show, Fungi Fest, and others.

• Contribute to marketing and communication initiatives by providing content for social media, newsletters, articles, etc.

• Perform special assignments and projects as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
Education and Experience

• Bachelor’s degree, or working toward a degree, in biology, wildlife sciences, environmental sciences, or related field.

• Previous professional experience in animal husbandry; experience with raptors is preferred.

• Previous experience with public presentations with animal ambassadors is valued.

• Must have a valid driver’s license, dependable vehicle, and be willing to travel within the region for offsite programming.
Skills and Abilities
- Strong grounding in the natural sciences including local fauna.
- Excellent communication skills; written, verbal and listening.
- Ability to adapt and be flexible in an environment subject to constant interruptions and quickly changing priorities.
- Strong organizational skills and an ability to multitask.
- Conscientious and detail-oriented; must be able to follow through with record-keeping and follow protocols.
- Excellent customer service skills.
- Strong spirit of cooperation and teamwork with strong interpersonal skills and a good sense of humor.
- Must be able to sit or stand for extended periods of time and regularly lift up to 50lbs.
- Must be able to work outdoors in hot, cold, wet and/or dry conditions and engage in sustained physical activity throughout the day during all seasons.

Certifications, Licenses, and/or Registrations:
- Must possess and maintain a valid Oregon state driver's license.
- Clean background check and driving record.
- Tetanus vaccine

How to Apply:
Please send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references, in a single pdf file, to: info@snco.org. Open until filled.