

Ridge Runner 2017- Job Announcement
Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor, Maine
1-4 Positions Available
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Photo: NPS/Charlie Jacobi

Friends of Acadia is accepting applications for up to four Ridge Runner positions for the 2017 summer season. Ridge Runners serve as roving educators and researchers in Acadia National Park. Their primary duties include educating hikers in "Leave No Trace" principles, maintaining trail cairns, and carrying out trail censuses and other park research.

***NOTICE- THE RIDGE RUNNER AND CADILLAC SUMMIT STEWARD PROGRAMS MAY BE MERGED FOR THE 2017 SEASON. DUTIES FOR EACH JOB WOULD BE SHARED BY EVERYONE.**

Duties (Primary Duties are listed as numbers 1 - 3 below)

1. Hikes selected foot trails inside and connecting to Acadia National Park, educating with visitors about Leave No Trace principles and offering trail guidance, first aid, water, maps, and information about Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park programs. May serve as first responder to emergencies in Park (SAR, fire, EMS, etc.), and communicate with others via park radio.
2. Performs trail maintenance. The main tasks are cairn building and destruction of inappropriate cairns and rock art (REQUIRES HEAVY LIFTING). Other routine trail maintenance tasks may include water bar cleaning, pruning, brushing in impacted areas, and trash pick-up.
3. Conducts stationary counts of visitors on carriage roads, hiking trails, summits and elsewhere or observes visitor behavior for long periods of time (1-3 hours). Often educates visitors about Leave No Trace concurrently.
4. Distributes survey cards and administers visitor questionnaires for routine monitoring and research projects.
5. Completes daily patrol log of work activities and time spent on them. Records observations of visitor use and impacts; visitor comments, compliments, and complaints; and trail maintenance needs. Reports trail maintenance needs to ANP Trails Foreman. Enters data in computer spreadsheet and database programs. Rainy day projects include data entry for curatorial projects.



6. Works with FOA staff on special events such as the FOA annual meeting, benefit auction, and local parades.
7. Collects other visitor use and impact data, assists in other park activities, and performs other duties as assigned.
8. Writes an end-of season evaluation of work experience with FOA and ANP.

Qualifications: Knowledge of or willingness to learn about Acadia National Park and its trails and carriage road system. Hiking or other outdoor experience. Excellent communication and people skills. Must be eager and capable to work hard at physically and socially demanding job, which may involve lifting 50 pounds, hiking 10 miles per day, communicating via park radios, working in inclement weather (hot, cold, or wet), assertively contacting visitors about Leave No Trace, and sitting for long stretches in often uncomfortable positions, attending to routine tasks. Reasonable accommodations will be made. Familiarity with word processing and database management. Patience. Sense of humor. Flexibility to adapt to quickly changing work demands and schedules and ability to be prepared for anything on any given day. Natural resource or outdoor recreation coursework helpful.

Requirements: Applicants **must** pass a federal background check. Valid Driver's License and reliable vehicle for driving to job sites. Certifications in basic first aid and CPR. Applicant must have appropriate personal outdoor gear. Applicants will be expected to use their own automobiles and will be reimbursed for mileage beyond their daily commute to park headquarters.

Period of Service: June 5th – August 26th. First two weeks will be part-time in training; next 10 weeks will be full-time with one unpaid personal day. Applicant must be available for the entire season. Successful applicant must attend Acadia National Park Leave No Trace training which includes one night of camping. **Days off:** 2 days/week to be arranged. Hours will vary. Weekend work expected.

Wages: \$13.00/hr. **Pay period:** Every two weeks. **Housing:** Applicants will be expected to find their own housing on or near Mount Desert Island. **Work Environment:** Most of the work is performed outdoors and may involve moderate risks or significant discomfort. **Uniforms/Equipment:** Uniform shirts, first aid kits, and gloves and other personal protective equipment provided.

To Apply: E-mail cover letter, resume, and references in **one PDF document** to Paige Steele at paige@friendsofacadia.org . Call Friends of Acadia at (207) 288-3340 or 1-800-625-0321 with questions. Friends of Acadia is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Application Deadline: February 24th, 2017