



The Darien Nature Center is located in the heart of Darien's Cherry Lawn Park. We inspire passion and respect for the natural world through nature education, hands-on experiences with nature, and environmental action and stewardship. Built by generous supporters, the Nature Center is open daily to the public, who visit our 22 species of animals and hike the trails. This summer we will be running seven weeks of on-site camp sessions that will include all the usual summer fun – outdoor exploration, nature discoveries, animal encounters, games, crafts, stories, songs, water play, science experiments, and more!

Summer Camp 2026

COUNSELOR IN TRAINING JOB DESCRIPTION - AGE 14+

Responsibilities:

- Assist the Lead Teacher, Senior, and Junior Counselor with the following:
 - Active outdoor play: animal encounters, waterplay, science experiments, crafts, and hiking
 - Helping Senior and Junior Counselors with classroom setup
 - Cleaning tables and putting away supplies and materials
- Get to know the campers, and provide a fun, safe, and welcoming environment
- Greeting children with enthusiasm during arrival
- Take direction from the lead teacher and senior counselor
- Report any concerns to the lead teacher or camp director

Requirements:

- Appreciation and respect towards animals and nature
- Patient, understanding, and kind to children 3 - 10 years of age
- Ability to work as a team
- Demonstrate creativity and enthusiasm
- Self-motivated, upbeat, and high energy
- Punctual and dependable

Qualifications:

- Must be able to provide a current health form from your physician. This is an opportunity to volunteer for one to seven weeks in a nature-based camp program.

Hours:

- Orientation/Training/Set up: June 17 & 18, 9 AM – 3:30 PM
- Camp Dates: June 22 – August 7 (no camp on 7/3)
- Camp Staff Hours: Monday & Thursday 8:45 AM–2:45 PM, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:45 AM–2:30 PM
- Pay: This is a volunteer position, however, if you are a good fit, you will be invited back the following year as a paid employee.

The Darien Nature Center is an equal-opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without attention to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran, marital, or disability status.



darien
nature
center

We accept CIT applications through May

SUMMER CAMP 2026 COUNSELOR IN TRAINING APPLICATION

Camp Dates: June 22 – August 7, 2026, 8:45 AM to 2:45 PM

Required Training: June 17 & 18, 2026, 9 AM to 3:30 PM

At the Darien Nature Center, we inspire passion and respect for the natural world through nature education, hands-on experiences with nature, and environmental action and stewardship.

Name_____ Gender_____ Preferred Pronouns_____

Address_____ Cell_____

City/State/Zip_____

Email Address_____ Date of Birth_____ Age_____

Are you CPR/ Basic First Aid Certified?_____

Why do you want to be a nature educator?_____

*****CIT's are not required to commit to all seven weeks of camp although it is ideal to commit to a minimum of 2 full weeks*****

EDUCATION

High School_____ Years Completed_____

REFERENCES

Please list two references:

Name_____

Occupation_____

Phone_____

1._____

2._____

Please attach your resume and/or fill in the following:

VOLUNTEER WORK

Describe any volunteer positions you have held. Please include dates:

INTEREST & HOBBIES

Please list your hobbies, including clubs, extracurricular activities, etc.:

I certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and are made in good faith.

I understand that the position that I am applying for requires my attendance Monday through Friday from 8:45 AM to 2:45 PM each day between June 22 and August 7. On June 17 and June 18, I will attend team building and training sessions from 9 AM to 3:30PM.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

**Please email, mail or hand-deliver your application to:
The Darien Nature Center, 120 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820 or
victoria@dariennaturecenter.org.**