



2024 Young Naturalist Shift Leader Info Letter

Dear Potential Young Naturalist Shift Leader and Parent/Guardian(s):

Thank you for your interest in the Young Naturalist Shift Leader program for Summer 2024 at the WNC Nature Center! We are grateful for the trust the community places in us to provide a fun, engaging, and educational program to keep participants enriched over the summer.

The 2024 program will run from Tuesday, June 18 to Tuesday, August 13. We have a **24.5 hour requirement** for the program this year. Shift Leaders are required to volunteer on a weekly basis on the same day and time for the entirety of the program. **Applications and Release Forms are due by Friday, April 19th, 2024 at 5pm.**

The program will be fully in-person and will consist of both on-site shifts and work days. Shifts will be offered 6 days a week (Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday) in both the morning (9:45 am - 12:30 pm) and the afternoon (1:15 pm - 4 pm). Shift Leaders will lead Young Naturalists in their shift duties, lead dynamic nature themed activities for Nature Center guests, assist with maintaining Nature Center grounds, and develop a special project. Scheduled work days will be offered on rotating Thursdays and Sundays.

Requirements for Applicants

- Be between 14 and 17 years of age on June 18, 2024.
- Be available on a weekly basis for the duration of the Young Naturalist program (June 18th- August 13th).
- Submit a completed application, letter of recommendation, and a completed Parent Liability Release Form by Friday, April 19, 2024 at 5 pm.
- Attend 2 orientation sessions on the week of June 9, 2024.
- Pay close attention to detail, follow directions, and work independently on assigned tasks.
- Be excited to try new things and embrace the unknown.
- Be willing to follow the rules of the Nature Center and this program.
- Have an enthusiastic attitude and plan to have fun!



Program Fee

- We ask for a program fee of **\$40.00 (payment is accepted upon acceptance in the program)**. This fee helps to cover the cost of program materials, including a t-shirt participants will be required to wear during every work shift.
- If you are unable to pay the fee, please still apply!
- If you are able, please consider covering the fees of your student *plus an additional student* who may not be able to.

Additional Information

- Applicants will be informed about admission into the program by the middle of May.
- If you have any questions, please contact Teen Program Coordinator, Chrissy Cochran (she/her) at **(828) 259-8084** or ccochran@ashevillenc.gov.

We look forward to the chance to work with you this summer!