

JOB TITLE**Fall Naturalist Intern****POSITION SUMMARY**

The Fall Naturalist position is a 10-week paid internship that offers a unique and immersive experience for individuals passionate about environmental education, conservation, and public engagement. As a staff member of the Education Department, interns will gain valuable skills and knowledge while actively contributing to Catalina Island Conservancy's mission. Fall Naturalists are the main point of contact between the Conservancy and the public during the Fall and Winter months, connecting with hundreds of visitors each year. The Fall Naturalists will provide interpretation about Catalina Island for visitors and residents primarily at the Wrigley Memorial & Botanic Garden (WMBG), as well as The Trailhead visitor center in Avalon.

LOCATION

On-site role based full-time on Catalina Island.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**Interpretive Activities**

- Conduct outreach activities and programming at WMBG and The Trailhead
- Support public understanding of the Conservancy's mission and work
- Support the Education Department with public and school programming
- Lead guided walking tours of WMBG
- Maintain records of program attendance and visitor interactions
- Support the Education Department with on-site evaluation such as visitor surveys
- Assist with special projects and programs as needed

Office Responsibilities

- Record and organize program attendance data in spreadsheets
- Record and organize survey data in spreadsheets
- Prepare for upcoming program needs
- Clean and maintain program equipment
- Work to complete an end of the season report and presentation
- Other duties as assigned



End of Season Report

- At the end of the 10-week internship, the intern will present a hands-on lesson at Avalon School informing younger grades about island ecology and/or conservation. A final report will also be delivered to staff across the Education and Conservation Departments and other Conservancy colleagues.

WORK ENVIRONMENT/PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Must be able to stand for extended periods of time and hike over moderate terrain on an incline such as providing walking tours of WMBG
- Must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds
- Must wear a Conservancy uniform while performing job duties together with closed-toe shoes
- Must be able to spend entire workday outside

SCHEDULE

- Must be available to work one full 8-hour weekend day plus two 2-hour weekday shifts, for a total of 12 hours per week.

QUALIFICATIONS

Skills and Abilities

Ideal candidates will demonstrate the following:

- **Interest in Environmental Education** – Enthusiasm for learning about local ecology, conservation, and natural history, with a willingness to explore topics related to Catalina Island's unique environment.
- **Communication and Public Engagement** – Willingness to develop and refine public speaking skills, with the ability to engage diverse audiences in a positive and informative manner.
- **Initiative and Professionalism** – Self-motivation, reliability, and a strong sense of responsibility in representing the Conservancy and its mission.
- **Collaboration and Adaptability** – Ability to work effectively as part of a team, while also demonstrating independence and problem-solving skills in a dynamic outdoor setting.
- **Outdoor Experience** – Comfort with working in an outdoor environment, whether through work, academic experiences, or personal activities.
- **Technical Skills** – Basic proficiency with word processing and spreadsheet software for data collection and reporting.



- **Multilingual Skills (Preferred)** – Spanish language proficiency is a plus, enhancing the ability to connect with a broader range of visitors.

Education and Experience

This internship offers **high school students** and **recent graduates** a chance to build on their existing skills while gaining hands-on experience in environmental interpretation and conservation education. Interns will actively contribute to the Catalina Island Conservancy's mission, developing practical knowledge through meaningful public engagement.

No formal experience is necessary—just a genuine interest in learning and connecting with others. Preference will be given to students and recent graduates of **Avalon High School**.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

Estimated Starting Salary Range:

\$20.00 an hour, part-time | seasonal

HOW TO APPLY

Please send a resume to jobs@catalinaconservancy.org, listing the job title in the subject line.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMITMENT

Catalina Island Conservancy is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability status, genetics, marital status, medical condition, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

OUR STORY

The mission of the Catalina Island Conservancy is to be an exemplary steward of Island resources through a balance of conservation, education, and recreation.

The Conservancy's vision is for a beautifully functioning Island ecosystem for all to enjoy. Just off the densely populated Southern California coast, Catalina Island is home to approximately 4,000 year-round residents and more than 60 endemic species of plants and animals found nowhere else on Earth.



The Catalina Island Conservancy protects 88 percent of Catalina Island's approximately 48,000 acres, including the region's longest publicly accessible undeveloped coastline.

The Conservancy is a research and conservation leader, protecting and restoring vulnerable habitats and species in its Mediterranean climate. Conservancy staff guides Island ecosystem recovery with the goal of generating a resilient, self-sustaining ecosystem with no endangered forms of life.

The Conservancy offers recreational experiences and educational programs for not only the 300,000 annual visitors who choose to visit the unique and special Conservancy "Wildlands Ecosystems" but also inspires the nearly 1.2 million visitors to other parts of the Island. Recreation, educational engagement, service opportunities, and partnerships connect the Island's unique resources to people's lives, inspiring environmental stewardship and action.

The Catalina Island Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity established in 1972 to protect and restore Catalina Island for future generations to experience and enjoy.