



THE WATCH HILL CONSERVANCY

WATCH HILL, RHODE ISLAND

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Napatree Naturalist (seasonal part-time position)
SUPERVISOR: Napatree Point Conservation Area Manager
LOCATION: Napatree Point Conservation Area, Westerly, RI

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

The Napatree Point Conservation Area (NTPCA) is 86 pristine acres of some of Rhode Island's rarest habitats. The Conservation Area is managed by The Watch Hill Conservancy and The Watch Hill Fire District. NTPCA is a community resource, open to the public year-round. NTPCA is named as a "Globally Important Bird Area" by the National Audubon Society and a Climate Response Demonstration Site by the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute. It is home to many species of federally and state-listed endangered species.

Napatree Naturalists assist in the stewardship and management of the NTPCA by protecting wildlife and habitats, ensuring visitors comply with posted guidelines, educating visitors about local natural history, and aiding scientific data collection and monitoring programs. Napatree Naturalists are employees of The Watch Hill Conservancy and report directly to the Napatree Point Conservation Area Manager.

The Napatree Naturalist position is a seasonal, part-time role of 15-20 hours per week. Naturalists must work at least one 5.5-hour weekend shift per week. Additional hours may be available for helping with special programs and stewardship work.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum Qualifications:

- *Completed a minimum of 3 years toward a bachelor's degree or has equivalent experience or training in tasks identified in the duties of the position.*
- *Must be able to work 15 – 20 hours per week from May to September. (Start and end dates are flexible.)*
- *Must be able to work at least one 5.5-hour weekend shift per week.*
- *Must be able to walk long distances in the sand and over rough terrain.*
- *Must be able to work in inclement weather and occasional weather-related, uncomfortable conditions.*
- *Must be able to communicate effectively and professionally with NTPCA visitors, volunteers, and other staff.*
- *Ability to lift 30 lbs.*
- *Satisfactory completion of a background check.*
- *Must have a valid driver's license.*

Preferred Qualifications:

- *A bachelor's degree, preferably in a field relevant to public service, natural resource conservation, environmental science, wildlife biology, or environmental education.*
- *A basic understanding of the flora and fauna of Rhode Island.*
- *A passion for the conservation of nature and environmental education.*
- *Skills and experience in public engagement.*
- *Ability to drive utility terrain vehicles.*
- *CPR/First Aid Certified.*

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

1. *Ensure visitors are compliant with posted guidelines for the NTPCA.*
2. *Conduct beach patrols and answer visitor questions about the natural history of Napatree.*
3. *Conduct systematic counts of beach visitors and boats. Report visitor usage to NTPCA management in accordance with NTPCA policies.*
4. *Assist in stewardship activities that require carrying equipment over moderate distances.*
5. *Assist, when needed, in scientific data collection related to and/or for the benefit of the NTPCA.*
6. *Assist, when needed, in delivering education programs, outreach programs, and natural history walks in the NTPCA.*
7. *Record and report unusual situations or wildlife sightings, especially those involving protected species in the NTPCA.*
8. *Safely operate utility terrain vehicles for land management purposes. Thoroughly clean and prepare said vehicle for storage.*

COMPENSATION:

This is a seasonal, part-time position that requires working 15-20 hours per week, including weekend hours. Compensation is \$22.50 per hour.

This is a seasonal part-time position with The Watch Hill Conservancy. As such, the employee is not eligible for health insurance or paid time off (PTO) benefits.

TO APPLY:

Applications submitted by email as PDF attachments are preferred, but hardcopy applications will be accepted. Applications will be considered until March 2nd, 2026.

Please provide the following materials:

1. *Letter of application stating your qualifications for and interest in the position.*
2. *A current resume that includes relevant work experience and academic training.*
3. *Name, affiliation, postal address, telephone number, and email address for three references. References will not be contacted without the expressed permission of the applicant.*

Send your application materials or questions to:

Napatree Point Conservation Area Manager

Napatree@TheWatchHillConservancy.org