

Common Ground's camps seek to provide a diverse group of children with a fun, safe summer experience, emphasizing building friendships and developing an appreciation for the natural world. Campers will experience nature as a fun, exciting place to explore, and discover how people, food, and the environment are interconnected. Exceptional camp staff are essential to establishing and maintaining the friendly, educational, community atmosphere of Common Ground Camps.

Job Title: Camp Teacher/Environmental Educator

Camp Details: See www.commongroundct.org to read about our camp. The camp blog at <http://commongroundct.tumblr.com/> is full of pictures and videos that give a great idea of what a Common Ground summer might look like! We are seeking the following staff for summer 2016:

Camp Teachers for Ecology Camp and Adventure Camp: Camp teachers work on a team of two teachers, one intern, and two high school-aged counselors to have amazing adventures with a group of 24 campers! Campers are divided by age (approximately ages 5 – 6/6 – 8/8 – 10/11 – 13), so staff who have expertise with a certain age group are welcome.

Teachers work together to plan activities that range from cooking to fort building and stream stumping to nature arts. Teachers do not need to have expertise in all program areas, but all teachers must be ready to get dirty, be active, be highly responsible, and have fun with children for all the hours they are at camp.

Specific duties for all camp teachers and head teachers include:

- Support our camp mission and culture through thoughtful participation in camp staff week and staff meetings with the goal of creating a safe, memorable, educational camp experience for our diverse camp community
- Create and lead activities that are in line with the mission of the camp. Ideas and resources will be provided, and staff will have time to develop these activities in collaboration with their staff team during staff training week.
- Supervise & interact with campers during recreation and lunch times
- Supervise & direct teenage & Jr counselors
- Assure physical/emotional safety of all participants, including proactive behavior management and rendering basic First Aid.
- Contribute to facility maintenance and cleaning as needed at the end of each camp day.

Head Teacher positions may be open for summer 2016. Head teachers manage the big picture of scheduling and activities for their group, interact daily with camp parents, lead lessons and activities, and meet daily with their staff team to plan and problem solve.

Job Schedule:

- Camp dates are June 27 – August 12, 2016 (including staff training week). **Camp staff must be available for ALL dates** – it is not possible to take days or weeks off. We are open on July 4, 2016, and all staff are expected to work a normal day.
- Staff work Mon – Fri from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Common Ground, 358 Springside Ave, New Haven, CT 06515

Minimum Qualifications:

- Experience working with groups of children in formal or informal settings (school, nature center, summer camp, scouts, etc). Paid experience with small groups of children (as a nanny or babysitter, for example) will be considered, however experience with groups of 10 or more children is preferred.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with individuals from diverse communities and cultures
- Enthusiasm for exploring nature with children. Basic knowledge of the natural world is preferred, but not required.
- Experience (personal or professional) with one or more program activity areas is welcomed. Seeking staff with expertise in camp songs and games, leading music with children, gardening, farm care, hiking and outdoor adventure, naturalist skills, cooperative games, nature arts, cooking with children, and outdoor adventure!
- Willingness to get dirty and work hard in all weather (including summer heat & humidity and/or rain)
- Ability to be physically active for most of an 8 hour day
- Demonstrated commitment, reliability, punctuality, and responsible behavior at previous jobs
- All applicants who love nature and children are welcome and encouraged – our typical camp staff represent a wide range of ages and backgrounds. Common Ground is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Salary: Starting wage is \$15/hour, no benefits.

To Apply:

- Step 1: Complete the online application [HERE](#).
- Step 2: Email a resume and a cover letter describing your interest in our programs and your relevant experience to Rebecca Holcombe, Camp Director: reholcombe@commongroundct.org.
- Interviews will be scheduled with qualified applicants who have completed both steps in the application process.
- Applications accepted until positions are full. Interviews begin in February 2016.

Common Ground is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. Common Ground does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. Common Ground does not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction. Inquiries regarding Common Ground's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:

Betsy Sneath

Director of Business and Administration

Common Ground - High School, Urban Farm and Environmental Education Center

358 Springside Avenue

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