2016 Seasonal Position Announcement

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP POSITION
4-6 positions available

The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative (CFI) is a nonprofit organization working to protect and preserve the natural integrity of Colorado’s 14,000-foot peaks through active stewardship and public education. www.14ers.org

Come work on Colorado’s highest peaks! CFI seeks to hire a volunteer leadership position to implement CFI’s trail maintenance and alpine restoration projects on Colorado’s 14,000-foot peaks (Fourteeners). This is an engaging yet challenging position based out of Colorado’s rugged backcountry. This position requires a strong trailwork skillset; conservation ethic; excellent leadership, logistical, and team skills; experience leading and managing volunteers; and a desire to work in a challenging yet beautiful backcountry setting. Come and join CFI this summer!

Mount Eolus Trail Crew – in Chicago Basin, near Durango, CO
- Eolus Trail Crew Member (4-6 positions) – Team Members will work directly with the 3 CFI project managers in the construction of a new summit trail on Mount Eolus. This position begins in late May and runs through early October.

POSITION DUTIES
- Implement trail construction and maintenance projects at high altitude (11-14,000+ feet), including:
  - Extensive rock work including rock steps and walls.
  - Restoration including alpine tundra stabilization and re-vegetation.
  - Serve as the on-mountain expert on technical trail construction or restoration/re-vegetation work and ensure that project work is being constructed to established quality standards and timelines.
  - Meet regular project goals/priorities.
  - Provide/facilitate solutions for working through problem areas.
- Coordinate with CFI project managers and to implement CFI’s project goals.
- Work projects require hiking up to 10 miles per day at altitude, using heavy hand tools, extensive heavy stonework, and working and contributing as part of a team.
- Ensure project safety and quality.
- Identify project challenges and pro-actively prescribe solutions.
- Foster a positive, open, engaging, and motivating experience for volunteers.
- Educate self, and fellow crew members in alpine ecology and Leave No Trace principles.
- Base camp duties, meal prep, tool/equipment maintenance, public interaction.
- Continually enhance expertise in alpine trail restoration/construction techniques
- Photograph worksites before, during and after work is performed to document on-the-ground work accomplishments.
- Education/outreach tasks may include:
  - Educate fellow crewmembers on Leave No Trace and alpine ecology topics.
  - Contact hikers/climbers on-mountain and present information about Leave No Trace and CFI.
- Other tasks as assigned to contribute to the overall implementation and operations of CFI’s projects.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Technical/Physical
- Trail building/maintenance experience  2+ seasons of trailwork experience preferred.
- Strong rock work experience (stairs, retaining walls, check dams, etc) as pertaining to trails.
- Proficiency in travelling (hiking and navigating) and living in mountain backcountry environments.
- Excellent physical condition.
• Willingness and ability to live and perform strenuous work at high altitude for multiple consecutive days.

Leadership
• Positive, professional attitude.
• A strong passion for and experience in leading volunteers and/or young adults in outdoor based conservation activities.
• Excellent communication, motivational, and interpersonal skills applicable to a group outdoor setting.

Management/logistical
• Ability to manage multiple tasks and complete trail work projects
• Ability to pro-actively solve problems, work independently, and be creative and resourceful.
• Passion about the outdoors and a strong conservation ethic.
• Strong written and verbal communication skills.
• Attention to detail.

Other desirable qualifications include:
• Education or background in Natural Resource Management, Forestry, Ecology, Botany, or related field
• Botany/Ecology background (through education and/or work experience)
• Experience working with horse-packaging
• Experience working for or with the US Forest Service
• Environmental education experience
• Ecological restoration experience
• Familiarity with the alpine environment and ecology
• Experience assessing trail conditions on site and developing work plans to address resource damage issues
• Digital photography/multimedia skills including photographing project accomplishments and field activities

ALL APPLICANTS MUST HAVE:
• Current valid drivers license and good driving record
• Certification in either a) Wilderness First Aid and CPR, or b) Wilderness First Responder (or have obtained these by the first date of employment)
• A personal vehicle to get to work rendezvous points
• Adequate personal outdoor camping/backpacking/hiking equipment
• Be available for the full term (or nearly full term) of the position – see above for approximate position dates

WORK SCHEDULE
The weekly work schedule will be variable, based around an 8, 10 hour days on, with 5 days off. Work hitches of up to 10 days in length and occasional evenings required. Some travel, occasionally with a personal vehicle, is required. The work is physically demanding and is performed at high altitude in a backcountry environment. Position is primarily field-based, with occasional trips to local towns for supplies and logistics.

WAGES AND BENEFITS
Compensation for this position ranges as follows, depending on experience:
• All positions: $13.00 to $16.00/hr.

Benefits include $17/day per diem for field days; medical training allowance ($200.00); eligibility for a performance-based bonus at the end of the season; and discounts on outdoor gear and equipment. Travel with a personal vehicle is reimbursed at the federal rate.

HOW TO APPLY
Positions available until filled. However, preference will be given to applications received by Monday, March 1, 2016. To apply, you will need to submit 1) CFI online application, 2) one-page cover letter, and 3) your resume as follows:
Fill out and submit an online Application for Seasonal Employment & Internships (link available on our website at www.14ers.org) Included in the online application will be instructions for how to submit your cover letter and resume to CFI. (NOTE: Cover letter and resume MUST be in MS Word or PDF format.)

If you have trouble with the online application form, submitting your materials in PDF or MS Word format, or submitting your cover letter and resume electronically, contact hiring@14ers.org.

Finalists will be required to complete a medical history, physician’s release form, and a driving background check. All questions pertaining to these positions can be directed to hiring@14ers.org. (Please, no phone inquiries). For additional information about CFI, please visit our website at www.14ers.org.

The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative is an equal opportunity employer.

Colorado Fourteeners Initiative
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