



LAKE STEWARD POSITION

The Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District Lake Stewardship Program (SLPID) is in place to protect Saratoga Lake water quality and prevent the introduction of new invasive species into Saratoga Lake and the spread of invasive species traveling to other water bodies. This is accomplished with inspections and de-con washes for motorized and non-motorized watercraft, gear/equipment, public education, field monitoring, and service work. Stewards serve on the frontlines in an effort to prevent the transport of aquatic invasive species. Being a Saratoga Lake District Steward is an opportunity to gain experience in the environmental field while protecting natural resources.

Most inspections and the de-con unit for washing happen on-site at the NY State public boat launch on Saratoga Lake.

The De-con unit is a high-pressure hot water unit that disinfects all exterior surfaces of the watercraft, including hulls, propeller units, trailers, and top decking, without any damage to the watercraft, its components, or equipment.

Fishing and recreational gear and equipment are inspected for any visual aquatic invasives and soaked in hot water at low pressure if needed.

Job Description:

- Lake Stewards are trained to interact with the boating public, record and electronically enter waterbody-user information on mobile tablets, and familiarize the public with aquatic invasive species information. Stewards are trained to conduct watercraft inspections, identify aquatic invasive species, and inform the public about how they can help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Including working a high-pressure, hot water decontamination unit as needed and learning how to set up, operate, and maintain the unit.
- Weekly hand harvesting and surveying of aquatic invasive species at several locations within Saratoga Lake, conducting boat counts, assisting with water samples, and collecting other lake data.
- Tabling events and door-to-door educational material distribution.
- Assisting with educational outreach programs such as floating classrooms, open houses, Invasive Species Awareness Week

Hours and Pay:

Full-time - up to 40 hours per week, hourly, temporary, seasonal, non-exempt. The Steward program is from mid-May through summer. Weekend & holiday work is required. Weekly scheduling is flexible.

Part-time – Part-time hours are available.

Stewards are paid an hourly rate of \$16.50 per hour to start the first year. Lake Stewards are required to attend a multi-day, paid training online and at the NY State Park Boat Launch.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Greet and interact with the public at boat launches to provide the program’s educational message.
- Perform watercraft inspections with hand removal and de-con removal of any transported aquatic vegetation.
- Identify aquatic invasive species and determine if a watercraft meets the New York State regulatory standard for being “clean, drained and dry” and when/if a watercraft should be recommended for boat decontamination.
- Collect and record electronic data using a tablet provided.
- All staff will adhere to the SLPID policy regarding safety and health practices concerning COVID-19 prevention.

Requirements:

- All education and experience levels will be considered; applicants with degrees or coursework in natural resources, environmental studies, environmental science, recreation, wildlife, or related fields are preferred.
- Must be 18 years or older.
- Ability to lift 30 pounds.
- Comfortable working with public-owned watercraft using high-pressure hot water (3000 psi, 140o Fahrenheit)
- Capable of working independently and with others.
- Familiarity with watercraft and aquatic invasive species is highly desirable but not required.
- High level of motivation and enthusiasm, willing to initiate interaction with the public.
- Strong communication skills.
- Experience using a tablet computer or phone for data entry purposes.
- Ability to work in inclement weather.
- Ability to spend time on your feet, bending and crouching to reach under vessels.
- Comfortable as a passenger on a boat and wading in the water.
- Applicants must have use of a personal vehicle for transportation to work locations.
- Ability to work weekends & holidays.

It is the policy of the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District to provide equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or any other protected characteristic under applicable law. EOE/AA/M/F/D/V

INTERESTED CANDIDATES CONTACT:
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