



Position Title

Naturalist Interpreter

Organizations

Gunflint Trail Historical Society/Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center in partnership with the U.S.D.A. Forest Service (Superior National Forest) and Visit Cook County.

Location

Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center and various sites within the Superior National Forest, in Grand Marais, MN and the North Shore.

Shared housing provided for this position, located in Grand Marais, Minnesota.

The East and West Bunkhouses are located in Grand Marais on the Gunflint Ranger District Administrative site. Each unit has six bedrooms that house up to ten tenants. Two bedrooms in each unit are single-occupancy and four are double occupancy. Each bunkhouse has two bathrooms with a shower, sink, toilet and a washer/dryer unit in each. The full kitchen and living room are shared spaces. Wi-Fi is available for tenant use.

Position Type

Seasonal 35 – 40 hours/week (hours may vary based on programming needs).

Position Summary

The Naturalist Program Presenter is responsible for planning, developing, and delivering engaging environmental education and interpretive programs for diverse audiences along the North Shore, Grand Marais, and the Gunflint Trail. This role advances the missions of both organizations by encouraging stewardship and awareness of the Superior National Forest's natural and cultural resources.

Programs may include guided nature walks, interpretive talks. The presenter serves as an ambassador for both organizations, providing accurate information, promoting conservation ethics, and creating welcoming, inclusive learning experiences.

Comprehensive training will be provided by Chik-Wauk staff, including guidance, resources, and existing program structures.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Design and present interpretive and educational programs focused on local ecology, wildlife, geology, forest management, cultural history, and conservation.
- Deliver programs to a wide range of audiences, including children, families, adults, and visitors with varying levels of outdoor experience.
- Assist with the development and maintenance of interpretive materials, displays, and educational resources.
- Lead outdoor programs such as guided hikes, nature exploration activities, and field-based demonstrations, ensuring participant safety at all times.
- Collaborate with Chik Wauk staff, volunteers, and U.S.D.A. Forest Service personnel to coordinate programming schedules and themes.
- Represent Chik-Wauk and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service in a professional and positive manner during programs, events, and community outreach activities.
- Provide excellent visitor service by answering questions and offering information about the local area.
- Follow all Chik-Wauk policies and U.S.D.A. Forest Service regulations, including safety protocols and Leave No Trace principles.
- Assist with special events or outreach programs as needed.

Required Qualifications

- Background in environmental education, natural resources, biology, ecology, forestry, outdoor recreation, or a related field (education or equivalent experience).
- Demonstrated experience presenting educational or interpretive programs to the public.
- Strong verbal communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.
- Comfort working outdoors in variable weather conditions and on uneven terrain.
- Ability to engage audiences of different ages, backgrounds, and learning styles.
- Possess valid driver's license and have the ability to drive personal vehicle to various sites for programs (mileage is reimbursed at federal reimbursement rate).

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience working with museums, nature centers, parks, or public land agencies.
- Knowledge of the natural and cultural history of northeastern Minnesota and the Superior National Forest.
- Experience with youth education, school programming, or informal science education.
- First Aid and CPR certification (or willingness to obtain).
- Familiarity with interpretive techniques and environmental education best practices.

Physical Requirements

- Ability to stand, walk, and hike for extended periods.
- Ability to lift and carry up to 25 pounds.
- Ability to work outdoors in insects, heat, cold, and changing weather conditions.

Work Schedule

Schedule may include weekdays, weekends, and evenings, depending on program needs and special events. Hours are flexible and may vary throughout the season.

Compensation

\$16 - \$20 hour based on commiserate experience and includes housing.

Equal Opportunity Statement

Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center and the U.S. Forest Service are equal opportunity organizations. We encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds and are committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for staff, volunteers, and visitors.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit a resume and brief cover letter outlining relevant experience and interest in environmental education and interpretation to info@gunflinthistory.org

Application deadline: February 28, 2026.

Questions: Contact Mark Hennessy, Executive Director, Gunflint Trail Historical Society
312-237-7900