



## Friends of Quarry Hill Nature Center Summer Nature Camp Instructor (Bird Banding Focus)

Join the Quarry Hill Nature Center summer camp staff for a summer of bird banding and environmental education. This Instructor position with a bird banding focus will have you catching, banding, and collecting data on a diverse number of MN songbirds and leading 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in bird-themed camps.

The position is ideal for candidates seeking to enhance wildlife ecology skills, field research experience and is a unique opportunity to train under master bird banders.

The summer nature camp instructor/bander is responsible for leading and implementing Quarry Hill bird-focused curriculum and experiences for children in small group settings. They are also responsible for the development, growth, and skill achievement of the campers in the group, as well as their general safety. A summer camp instructor provides high-quality outdoor educational and recreational experiences for campers that focus on Quarry Hill's mission of "Opening eyes and minds through natural science discovery".

The 2025 Summer Nature Camp begins in early June and runs through mid-August  
There is no camp the week of June 30 - July 4.

The normal work week for full-time summer staff is 35 hours, Monday – Friday; 8:15am - 3:45pm  
Pay is dependent on qualifications and experience. Minimum starting hourly is \$16.50/hour

### Training Requirements

- Applicants must be available for substantial training leading up to the first day of camp. Training time is dependent on the applicant's ability to demonstrate proficiency at bird banding and includes learning trapping, mist netting, aging and sexing, and USGS bird banding protocols. Opportunities for training can start immediately.

### Responsibilities

- Follow Quarry Hill and USGS guidelines for catching and banding songbirds
- Handle live birds according to Quarry Hill protocols
- Accurately collect and record biological data on captured birds
- Teach and lead small group activities developed by Quarry Hill staff for 10 -12 year old campers. Activities include bird banding, hiking, nature explorations, animal studies, games, canoeing, rock climbing, fishing, etc.
- Provide fun, educational, and safe experiences in the outdoors for all campers.
- Identify and respond to camper behavioral issues; report concerns to appropriate staff
- Communicate with parents regarding camper's experiences and daily activities
- Oversee and mentor a high school assistant each week and complete an evaluation of their work
- Know and understand all emergency procedures associated with the camp program
- Know, enforce, and follow all safety guidelines as outlined by Quarry Hill Nature Center

- Complete other assigned operational tasks before and after camp such as cleaning and room preparation

**Qualifications:**

- Knowledge of MN bird fauna
- Experience in basic MN bird identification
- Willingness and ability to train until proficient at bird banding before the start of camp on June 9.
- College-level coursework such as an internship or practicum in an educational setting, and/or direct working experience with youth-related programming such as camps, sports, or other recreation-based youth activities.
- Ability to lead and implement Quarry Hill program curriculum and activities
- Preferably college coursework in the natural sciences
- Current First Aid certification or the ability to obtain certification upon hire
- Ability to maintain an upbeat & positive attitude all summer with campers and co-workers
- Ability to work as a member of a team and the ability to accomplish tasks with little direct supervision
- Strong organizational and communication skills

**Application Instructions**

Complete the online application here: [Online Application Form](#)

**Application Deadline:** Open until all positions are filled.

**Questions about the position can be directed here:**

Contact: [apply@QHNC.org](mailto:apply@QHNC.org)