



BWX Trail Guide Description

The BWX Trail Guide position is a unique experience. It allows individuals to become proficient in primitive wilderness camping and Christian leadership. Guides will facilitate groups, of up to eight people, through Minnesota's Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness on weeklong voyages. While on trail Guides will help groups *engage* in nature, *grow* in faith, and *share* with one another. Guides will be relating with and leading a wide range of people including Christians of varying denominations and non-Christians, as well as various age groups, ethnicities, and backgrounds. Each Trail Guide will facilitate four to five trips per season, in addition to a staff-training trip. The trip schedule will most often alternate between one week spent on trail and the next at the base camp. The off trail time is spent preparing for upcoming trips, resting, and participating in the base camp community. While an enthusiasm and interest in outdoor living is essential, it is not necessary to possess wilderness experience prior to working with the BWX. Trail Guides go through an extensive training process to learn all the necessary skills.

Working at BWX also gives you the opportunity to live for an extended period of time in relative simplicity. BWX Staff will live at the base camp, located near Ely, MN, for the duration of the summer, from early June to mid August. Guides will receive room and board, as well as a \$250.00 stipend to purchase necessary personal gear with our discounted Pro-deals. Guides will also have the option of fundraising up to \$3,000.00 of personal support, for which the BWX will provide a tax receipt to your donors.

Responsibilities

- Completion of application, self-evaluation and references from two qualified sources.
- Completion of all training requirements
- Preparation for each trip which entails learning about group needs and goals, creation of a route and schedule, and creation of Bible studies, discussion topics, and other spiritual content.
- Navigation of groups through the BWCA on weeklong excursions.
- Facilitation of Bible studies and discussions on trail.
- Learning of all processes and procedures dealing with group safety, emergency situations, equipment maintenance, etc.
- Participation in the community that is created between the Guide Staff throughout the summer at base camp.
- Help with base camp maintenance and upkeep while off trail.
- Help with the process of bringing groups off trail and launching the next trips each weekend.



Qualifications

- Minimum of 19 years old.
- Ability to commit to guiding two consecutive seasons.
- Eagerly moving in the direction of Christian maturity and living a life worthy of being imitated.
- Christian leadership experience.
- Confident in one's ability to lead diverse groups of people
- Adventurous spirit
- Flexible
- Willing to relinquish normal physical comforts and conveniences
- Ability to manage conflict
- Organizational skills
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to participate in honest discussion
- Ability to respect ideas that may be different from your own