DEFINITION:
The Parklands of Floyds Fork is looking for an energetic, enthusiastic, and passionate professional to create and teach world-class science curriculum to visitors of all ages. Under the direction of the Education Coordinator, the Education Specialist develops and implements programming for all ages. This position works independently and as a team within The Parklands and ensures visitors of all ages have an interesting, informative, and enjoyable experience through active engagement with the public and by teaching and delivering interpretive programs such as field trip, camps, and guided hikes. This is a full-time, salary position with the possibility of weekend work during the outdoor recreation season.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:
The Education Specialist position is distinguished from other positions in that it provides memorable programming that engages park visitors and instills life-long learning in individuals. The Education Specialist creates curriculum aligned with Next Generation Science Standards that reaches a wide audience. In addition to developing curriculum and programming, the Education Specialist has the opportunity to lead programs including, but not limited to, classes, tours, interpretive hikes, and guided walks to a wide variety of audiences, while also providing professional development to other staff on teaching techniques and content knowledge.

As a primary visitor contact, the Education Specialist works to increase the public’s understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the significant and special places in the Park. The Education Specialist works directly with interpretive rangers and camp staff as they conduct a variety of interpretive programs and assist in the welcome center - greeting guests and giving visitors information about park amenities.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:
- Design age appropriate school field trip curriculum that aligns with Next Generation Science Standards
- Teach & deliver education content during registered programs, (field trips, camps, scout programs, and family events)
- Lead interpretive hikes, guided walks, and cultural history tours
- Support the professional development of staff/Provide guidance to staff in building skills and competence in the teaching of informal science.
- Annual evaluation and review of existing curriculum.
- Manage multiple projects and work independently.
- Greet & welcome visitors, provide information about Parklands amenities
- Work directly with volunteer staff during programs
- Answer phone calls, provide Parklands information, take messages, and route calls
• Take advanced registrations for education programs
• Perform basic cleaning tasks
• Undertake all necessary training including CPR/First Aid and youth protection

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum Requirements:
• Must possess a Bachelor’s degree in teaching or natural history field including biology, environmental science, geology, ecology
• Prior experience developing curriculum, working with audiences of all ages
• Excellent public interaction skills; must have a pleasant, welcoming attitude
• Able to use Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint
• Ability to learn and disseminate information to multiple audiences, and to make learning both engaging and fun
• Ability to work with volunteers
• Basic knowledge of Kentucky flora & fauna and an understanding of Kentucky cultural history
• Basic understanding of STEM subject areas and Next Generation Science Standards, and Kentucky core content for science education
• Previous teaching experience, or experience in interpretation or leading tours, highly desirable
• Must pass a criminal background check

Additional Requirements:
• Work independently in varied weather conditions including heat, cold, rain, and snow.
• Individuals must be physically capable of operating vehicles safely, possess a valid driver’s license and have an acceptable driving record.
• Must be able to lift 40 pounds and move easily in an outdoor setting with regular work in outdoor conditions without environmental controls.
• Some positions will require the performance of other essential and marginal functions depending on work location, assignment or shift
• Ability to satisfactorily complete First Aid/CPR training
• Ability to satisfactorily complete Youth Protection training
• Ability to adhere to a Uniform Policy

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION:

Applicants must possess a Bachelor’s degree. A passion for the outdoors and ability to communicate effectively is required. Prior experience developing curriculum, working with audiences of all ages and coursework in natural sciences, teaching, or cultural history is preferred. Years of experience or a deep understanding of Kentucky’s natural history may supplement educational requirements.
Applicant should be organized, flexible, patient and able to adapt curriculum and schedule as needed. Applicant must be comfortable working on projects independently and must be able to collaborate with other Parklands staff. This position has many roles so the ability to work inside an office and outside within the park at a moment’s notice is desirable. Understand and commit to The Parklands’ mission. Applicants must be committed to the development of outside partnerships for the benefit of The Parklands.

WORK CONDITIONS/ENVIRONMENT:
While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to speak publicly to varied audiences including children and adults. The employee frequently is required to stand, use hands, fingers, handle or feel objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands and arms. The employee is also required to walk, sit, climb or balance, and stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The majority of work is done in an outdoor setting without environmental controls. While most of the work is performed outdoors and on occasion, in inclement weather, it also can be performed at various indoor locations and venues. The noise level can range from low to very loud. The position may work in remote park locations and in crowded urban park conditions.

ABOUT THE PARKLANDS:
The Parklands of Floyds Fork is a systemic, world-class addition to Louisville’s park system that includes four major parks linked by a park drive, a first-rate urban trail system, and a remarkable water trail, all tracing Floyds Fork, a classic Kentucky stream. 21st Century Parks, a 501(c) 3 established in 2004, is responsible for fundraising; land acquisition, construction, operations, and maintenance of the new parks system. This public/private project is unique in the region and unlike anything currently in development across the country—truly a city—shaping model. This is the largest fully funded non-profit park system in the nation. Learn more at www.theparklands.org.

LOCATION:
This position will be based out of Beckley Creek Park, 20 minutes east of downtown Louisville near Middletown. Duties also require work outdoors and in other park facilities within The Parklands system.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:

APPLY:
To apply, send your resume, cover letter (including expected salary), and three references to Education Specialist Search, The Parklands of Floyds Fork, 471 West Main Street, Suite 202, Louisville, KY 40202, or e-mail to areeves@21cparks.org. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.