



Summer Conservation Intern Job Description 2024

Title:	Conservation Intern
Reports To:	Protected Areas Manager
Location:	Southern Georgian Bay (South of 12 Mile Bay and north of Honey Harbour)
Duration:	approximately 11 weeks (35 - 40 hours/week)

Overview:

The Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) Conservation Interns serve as vital additional staff for GBLT's conservation work during the summer months. The Conservation Intern position assists GBLT staff in all aspects of our conservation work including habitat stewardship, species monitoring/observation work, environmental education, environmental threat identification/mitigation, and GBLT Protected Areas (PAs) management and monitoring. Access to accommodation and a boat on Georgian Bay is required.

Responsibilities will include:

- Monitoring and preserving the condition of GBLT Protected Areas (PAs) including public use areas
- Providing information and education materials to those visiting GBLT PAs while implementing property use requirements according to GBLT environmental policies
- Developing and delivering educational programming for youth
- Managing, tracking, and reporting species and species at risk data
- Assisting environmental threat mitigation efforts including phragmites identification and removal
- Education of visitors and the general public about the GBLT and its partners
- Assisting delivery of GBLT's local community events

The positions will require knowledge of and interest in the Georgian Bay environment, excellent boating skills, and a high level of independence and maturity.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Regular monitoring of GBLT Properties and other priority natural areas in southern Georgian Bay

- Ensure that GBLT properties are monitored to provide protection for natural features and respectful public access when applicable
- Document recreational use of key properties including numbers of visitors, activity type, evidence of impact using GBLT website forms and photographs
- Conduct species monitoring/surveys on existing and potential PAs
- Document condition of conservation targets and other relevant features on all properties using GBLT website forms and following the GBLT protocols
- Engage and share basic natural heritage education with visitors to GBLT lands
- Grow positive awareness of the land trust through communications with visitors
- Monitor GBLT-owned and priority natural areas for provincially significant species and submit

data using iNaturalist

2. Other Conservation activities

- Assist in invasive species threat mitigation with specific emphasis on phragmites and purple loosestrife identification and removal
- Assist Stewards and staff on activities related to the implementation of stewardship plans for GBLT PAs (e.g. signage, restoration, invasive species removal)
- Assist GBLT staff in the monitoring of GBLT properties and completion of flora and fauna inventories on new potential properties
- Assist GBLT and partner organizations in surveying and inventorying for flora and fauna species
- Assist in GBLT's MOTUS Program for migratory birds through tracking and assist with field research

3. Education

- Update and deliver GBLT's "Conservation Quest" kids education program at southern Georgian Bay summer camps and recreation programs
- Educate users of both the GBLT properties and where appropriate, the larger community, on the permitted and prohibited uses of the GBLT properties, and on the ecological and/or cultural significance of the properties in order to foster community support for the protection of the GBLT properties and Georgian Bay at large
- Promote and assist in organizing educational events for the local and wider Georgian Bay community that promote the stewardship and appropriate use and understanding of both the GBLT properties and priority natural areas

4. Administration

- Submitting steward data to GBLT for each property visit
- Provide updates on ongoing stewardship activities to GBLT staff
- Follow appropriate procedures as outlined in the GBLT Stewardship Policy
- Provide promotional materials, like photos and videos, to GBLT staff to assist in communications

5. Research

- Assist in tracking of provincially significant species for ongoing research
- Complete vegetation and ELC surveys of habitat for Prairie Warblers
- Assist in other research projects as required

Skills & Aptitudes:

- Interest in the conservation of eastern Georgian Bay
- Familiar with environmental science and natural heritage
- Interest in and comfort around wildlife, particularly snakes and turtles
- Experience, interest and/or abilities in field inventories, vegetation community classification, and field identification of vertebrates and vascular plants
- Interest in outdoor recreation and familiarity with reading maps and working with GPS
- Familiarity with and interest in the GBLT's and other conservation properties
- Strongly independent and willing to work both independently and in coordination with Conservation Intern partner(s), GBLT staff, partners, and volunteer Stewards

- Positive interpersonal and negotiating skills, prepared for regular encounters with a variety of individuals and groups
- Interest in working with and teaching children
- Must be prepared to work flexible hours, including most weekends
- Must be comfortable with daily boat travel in a variety of weather
- Must have access to a seaworthy boat on a daily basis, and be experienced boating on Georgian Bay
- Must be available in southern Georgian Bay from late June to early September and have own accommodations
- Be familiar with and share the mission and objectives of the Georgian Bay Land Trust

Anticipated start date: Monday June 17, 2024

Anticipated end date: Saturday September 1, 2024

Salary: \$20/hr

Boat gas and expenses will be covered.

Candidates must be age 30 or under.

Preference will be given to students, particularly those enrolled in an environmental science-related program in college or university, and those who are based for the summer in close proximity to southern GBLT properties.

We thank all applicants, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Please forward your resume and cover letter in confidence by *FEBRUARY 9, 2024* to hiring@gblt.org with the subject Conservation Intern Application.