



DAMARISCOVE ISLAND STEWARDS

Overview:

Boothbay Region Land Trust (BRLT) invites applications for teams of two applying together to provide seasonal stewardship at Damariscove Island. **Candidates must apply as a team.** Positions run from mid-June through Labor Day, and are 40 hours per week for each Island Steward. More information about Damariscove Island can be found at:

<https://bbrlt.org/preserves/damariscove-island/>

Summary of Responsibilities:

The stewards work as a team while living on historic Damariscove Island, a 210-acre undeveloped, nearly treeless island located five miles southeast of Boothbay Harbor.

The stewards live in a rustic cabin and are responsible for:

- Providing visitors with information about the island's cultural and natural history, the Boothbay Region Land Trust (BRLT), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
- Participating with future scientific research projects.
- Maintaining positive communication with the local fishing community, and ensuring that visitors respect preserve guidelines.
- Maintaining buildings, trails and interpretive materials. Applicants need to have appropriate skills to fix and repair the infrastructure of the island. Carpentry skills are critical to the upkeep of the buildings.
- Secure all supplies needed for the island by coordinating with BRLT Land Steward before returning for each 10-day work period.

The stewards must be self-reliant, able to live in isolated/primitive conditions, and must enjoy interacting with many types of people. Familiarity with Maine coastal flora, fauna and culture, and experience with equipment maintenance are essential skills for the caretakers.

Specific Tasks:

1. Greet visitors, respond to questions, and offer information about the island's cultural and natural history and about the Boothbay Region Land Trust. Caretakers must maintain a presence in the cove/dock area during all times when visitation is likely to be high.
2. Ensure that preserve use guidelines are respected and the island's natural features are undisturbed by providing a visible presence throughout the island.
3. Assist in collecting data for future scientific studies.

4. Maintain signs, trails, interpretive materials, and other structures (caretaker cabin, storage sheds, outhouse facility, museum, bog bridging, docks, floats, etc.) and equipment for use by visitors.
5. Orient substitute caretakers and coordinate other preserve volunteers.
6. Maintain positive communications with lobstermen, Coast Guard Station owners, and preserve volunteers.
7. On occasion, assist with BRLT sponsored field trips.
8. Monitor and/or remove invasive species.
9. Keep daily log of activities and preserve use.
10. Report to land steward on a weekly basis throughout the summer, and submit a typed summary report about seasonal activities, events and conditions on the preserve by October 1.

Living Conditions:

Steward schedule will consist of 10 days on the island followed by 4 days off. Island housing is a rustic, one-room cabin with a loft, a gas cooking range with oven and a refrigerator. Drinking water is hauled from the mainland. There are also composting toilets on the island. Boat transportation is arranged by Boothbay Region Land Trust.

Skill Set:

- Self-reliance and ability to work independently.
- Scientific background/skills are highly desirable.
- Familiarity with coastal Maine flora, fauna and culture.
- Current first aid certification (wilderness first aid desired).
- Interest in meeting and talking with a wide variety of visitors.
- Carpentry skills are highly desirable.
- Ability to properly use and care for hand tools and power equipment.
- Practical experience with small boats and maintenance.
- Willingness to live in isolated conditions in housing provided.
- Strong ability to employ courtesy, tact, good judgment and patience in all situations.

Compensation:

Each island steward will be paid a wage of \$13/hour for a standard 40-hour work week. Time worked beyond 40 hours would need to be approved by BRLT staff in advance. We also ask that schedules be designed to maximize coverage for the island on a daily basis. Stewards must make plans for living arrangements during time off.

Note: Applicants must have their own land transportation.

To apply please forward a single cover letter and resumes for both applicants to

Brad Weigel, Lands Manager, at bweigel@bbrlt.org

Deadline for applications is March 12, 2021.