

Youth Employment

in natural resources



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www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca



Great people doing great jobs

Do you want to make a difference?

We want to let you know about some very exciting youth employment opportunities with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Are you:

- Looking for your very first job?
- Thinking about working in the environmental or natural resource management fields?
- A high school, college or university student, or a recent graduate?
- Looking to gain transferable skills?
- Eager to contribute to preserving Ontario's wildlife and natural spaces?

If you answered yes to any of the above, one of our youth employment programs might be right you.



What's in it for you?

Our youth employment programs can give you so much more than just a pay cheque:

- On-the-job training
- Work experience in key MNR activities
- Learning opportunities to help you break the "no experience, no job" cycle
- Expertise you can use in the general labour market
- New friends and networks
- A feeling that you made a difference by contributing to the environment.

Is this new?

No. We have offered programs for young people for more than 60 years. This booklet will provide you with important information about each of the ministry's six youth employment programs. Please read it carefully.

What does MNR do?

Lots, but mainly:

- It is the province's lead conservation and resource management agency.
- It works to conserve biodiversity, protect green space and source water, ensure sustainable forestry and support renewable energy.
- Most of our work involves managing Ontario's natural resources such as fish, wildlife, Crown lands, water, forests and parks in a way that ensures they will be there for generations to come.
- We protect the public from natural hazards such as floods and forest fires.
- We also create, maintain and provide access to geographic information.



Forming Foundations, Fostering Partnerships

Each year our youth employment programs work to support natural resource management, land stewardship and public education. In an effort to expand work and learning, the youth programs field staff search to find new and mutually beneficial partnerships in the communities they work in. These partnerships provide new perspective, learning opportunities and practical work experience.

The Algonquins of Pikwakanagan have partnered with the ministry along with the Renfrew County Stewardship Council on a number of natural resource management projects. In the summer of 2005, the Renfrew Ontario Stewardship Ranger (OSR) Team were honoured with a greeting on the shores of Golden Lake out of Deacon, Ontario by Pikwakanagan Chief, Kirby Whiteduck. The team joined Pikwakanagan Councillor Jim Meness on the water for a day of education on waterfowl and their impact on the local fish and wildlife populations and sensitive vegetation.

The Rangers learned how to identify birds, their nesting and roosting sites, and about their habitat and diet. The OSR team was able to take away an educated understanding about waterfowl habitat and the partnership efforts of the ministry, the Renfrew County Stewardship Council and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan.

The benefit of a partnership between First Nation communities and our programs is the rich cultural learning that compliments the work they do. To understand and respect one another's cultural heritage, then share the responsibility of good resource stewardship is a great first step in building strong communities.

For more information on the Ontario Stewardship Ranger Program or other student jobs with the ministry, visit www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca.



You can find out more about MNR by visiting
www.mnr.gov.on.ca



Ontario Rangers

Are you ready for an adventure of a lifetime?

The Ontario Ranger Program is an eight-week summer job program that aims to provide participants with a unique combination of work, learning and life experiences.

During your eight-week work placement, you will live at one of our ranger camps, work on a variety of environmental projects in the outdoors, learn new skills and meet other youth your age from across the province.

In a summer, rangers may help with stream rehabilitation projects, take canoe trips to maintain portages, trails and campsites and work on forestry projects or in Ontario Parks. Rangers also receive training in Health and Safety and tool handling and can earn certificates in environmental leadership.

Before applying, you need to know:

- 4 • It's hard work.
- You'll be working outdoors most of the time.

- You'll be a resident of the camp and you must follow rules during your stay. Failure to do so can result in the termination of your employment.
- You are expected to participate in organized camp activities during weekends and evenings.

Life at camp

- You will live in cabins, bunkhouses or mobile trailers.
- Meals are prepared daily, but you will pack your own lunch for work each day.
- Camps are either all female or all male with 24 to 36 Rangers at each camp.
- Visitors are not allowed without permission.
- Camp supervisors are in charge of and responsible for the camp and all activities.
- Male and female bilingual camps are available for a limited number of students.

What will I get paid?

- You will be paid a daily wage based on the Ontario minimum wage, minus a subsidized room and board rate.
- Vacation pay is included in your daily wage.
- Pay cheques are directly deposited to your bank account every two weeks.
- You can expect to receive your first pay cheque during the third or fourth week of camp.

What you must bring

- A pair of 8-inch CSA-approved (Green Triangle) steel shank and toe work boots. To avoid blisters wear your work boots prior to beginning your work term.
- Two pairs of leather or leather strip enforced work gloves.
- Should you be selected, we will provide you with a list of clothing and other items you will need.

Safety comes first

- During your first week on the job, you will be given training on safe working conditions, work habits and the use of tools and equipment.
- You must wear proper safety equipment when required.
- All accidents, no matter how small, must be reported to supervisory staff immediately.
- Rangers may not operate ministry vehicles or bring personal vehicles to camp.
- Firearms and other weapons will not be allowed in the camp.
- The use or possession of alcohol or non-medical drugs will not be tolerated.
- Smoking is not permitted in Ranger buildings or vehicles.
- Personal flotation devices must be worn in all watercraft, at all times.

Who can apply?

You can apply to the Ontario Ranger Program if you:

- Are an Ontario resident and enrolled in school
- Will be 17 years old between January 1 and December 31 the year you want to work as a Ranger
- Do not turn 18 at any point during the calendar year you want to work as a Ranger
- Are in good physical condition. (A health questionnaire must be completed by your family physician and sent to the Youth Programs office before you arrive at camp).

For more information, you can also call us at

(705) 755-2014.

www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca

"I have never been more positive on where I wanted to go with my life. I figured that studying Environmental Sciences was what I wanted to do with my post-secondary schooling...I plan on one day working with the MNR."

Andrew Swift, 2005 Ontario Ranger

How do I apply?

- You can get applications through your school guidance counsellor or on our website at www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca
- The application deadline for the Ontario Ranger Program is **5:00 p.m. on the last Friday of March.**
- Send your application to:
Youth Programs Office
Human Resources Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources
3rd Floor, South Tower
300 Water Street, P.O. Box 7000
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5
or by fax: (705) 755-3120





Ontario Stewardship Rangers

Working for tomorrow

The Ontario Stewardship Ranger Program is an eight-week summer job program that provides community-based work experience, personal development and skills training to youth who want to expand their commitment to natural resource management. Before applying to the program, here are some things you should know:

- You'll be working outside.
- The work is physically demanding.
- You will live at home and travel to your work location daily.
- You will work in a small, co-ed crew that is recruited locally.
- You will be working with local conservation groups and focus on community-based environmental projects.
- Qualified Team Leaders are in charge of and responsible for the Ontario Stewardship Ranger crew and all of its activities.
- 6 • You may be asked to participate in overnight camping or canoe trips.

Learn while you earn

- You will be paid a daily wage based on the Ontario minimum wage.
- Pay cheques are directly deposited to your bank account every two weeks, starting in the third or fourth week of your contract.
- You will receive lectures and demonstrations from professional and technical staff. You will also go on field trips and learn about things like:
 - Forest management (projects could include thinning and pruning young stands of trees and planting trees)
 - Managing fish and wildlife species and habitats and fish hatchery operations (projects could include stream rehabilitation and fish spawning bed creation, wetland evaluation and enhancement)
 - Using specialized equipment like Global Positioning Systems (GPS), computers and data processors.

What you must bring

- A pair of 8-inch CSA-approved (Green Triangle) steel shank and toe work boots. To avoid blisters wear your work boots prior to beginning your work term.
- Two pairs of leather or leather strip enforced work gloves.
- Any other safety equipment is supplied on the job.
- Should you be accepted into the program, we will provide you with a list of clothing and other items you will need.

www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca

Safety comes first

- During your first week on the job, you will be given training on safe working conditions, work habits and the use of tools and equipment.
- You must wear proper safety equipment when required.
- All accidents, no matter how small, must be reported to supervisory staff immediately.
- Stewardship Rangers may not operate ministry vehicles.
- Personal vehicles are not permitted on the work site.
- Firearms and other weapons will not be allowed at the worksite.
- The use or possession of alcohol or non-medical drugs will not be tolerated.
- Smoking is not permitted in Ranger vehicles.
- Personal flotation devices must be worn in all watercraft, at all times.

"I learned so much this summer, not only about the environment and being a leader, but about me too. Many of the things I've learned will stay with me for the rest of my life. It's been such an awesome and equally grand experience!"

Brandon Maracle

2005 Ontario Stewardship Ranger



Who can apply?

- You are an Ontario resident and enrolled in school.
- You will be 17 years old between January 1 and December 31 the year you want to work as a Stewardship Ranger.
- You do not turn 18 at any point during the calendar year you want to work as a Ranger.
- You are in good physical condition. (A health questionnaire must be completed by your family physician and given to your team leader prior to beginning work.)

How do I apply?

- Please start checking our website in March each year to find a team near you.
- To apply for a position, send your résumé and covering letter directly to the address provided for the location at which you would like to work.
- Stewardship Ranger teams are located in different parts of the province each year. A list of counties that will host teams is available at www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca and at your local ministry and Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) offices.

Internship Program

Be part of it



No experience,
No work.
No work,
No experience.

Is this what you face when you are looking for employment? Our Internship Program for post-secondary school students or recent graduates was built to help break this cycle.

The Internship Program officially started in March 2000 and it is getting good reviews. Over 90 per cent of interns felt their internship experience has been valuable to their career path.

Interns work as resource technicians, ecologists, biologists, systems officers and communications officers for key ministry Projects. In addition, our new Specialized Internship Program focuses on nurturing careers in forestry, land management, policy and enforcement.

Interns work to create and enhance sustainable ecosystems in Ontario. They provide field research, policy development and support program implementation in areas such as renewable energy, sustainable forestry and the protection of source water and green space. These internships support work to conserve biodiversity which effectively contributes to the health of Ontario communities.

www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca

What is the salary?

The amount you are paid is based on the type of work you will be doing. All Intern positions pay more than Ontario's minimum wage.

About the program

- MNR Internships are up to 10 months (40 weeks) in length.
- The goal of the program is to provide you with specific skills and learning opportunities to help you make the transition from school to work.
- Learning opportunities will focus on ministry key businesses as they support government priorities in: resource management initiatives in communities, conserving biodiversity, source water protection, renewable energy, greenspace conservation, parks and protected areas, and recovery of endangered species.
- The work will help ensure Ontario's natural resources are managed sustainably.
- Jobs will change from year to year to reflect the ministry's business.

How do I find the jobs?

Jobs for the Internship Program will be listed as early in the year as possible, as soon as they become available, at:

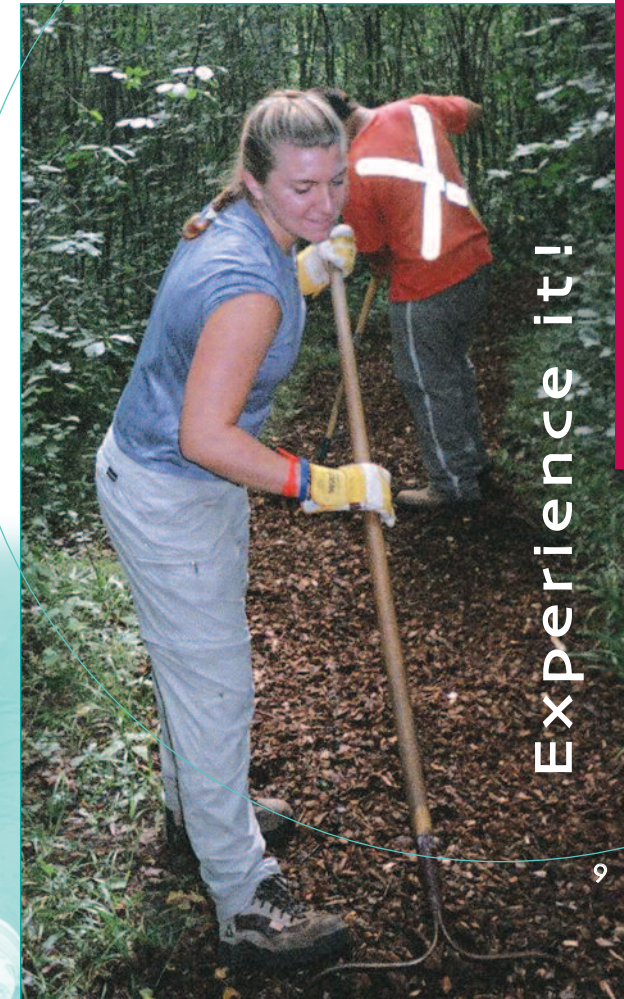
- Local employment centres
- University and College placement centres
- Online at www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca.

Who can apply?

- Full-time post-secondary students
- Or recent (within five years) graduates of a recognized post-secondary institution
- Applicants must be eligible to work in Canada.

Where do I send my résumé?

You must submit a résumé and covering letter to the address listed in the advertisement(s). Your skills and knowledge must match the job you are applying for. You may apply for as many positions as you wish.



Experience it!

Summer Experience Program

Start thinking about your summer job now! The Ministry of Natural Resources offers over 1,600 jobs through this program.

About the program

- Available to youth aged 15 to 24 (up to 29 if disabled).
- The program runs for seven weeks, but contract start dates vary.
- There are positions with ministry throughout the province.
- The rate of pay is Ontario's minimum wage.
- You must be an Ontario resident and eligible to work in Canada.
- Students are responsible for their own accommodation.

Applying

- Summer Experience Program positions are posted in March each year at your local Youth Employment Office of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and at www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca
- Position listings are also distributed to high school guidance offices and college and university career centres.
- Find the positions for which you are interested.
- Complete a Summer Experience application form for each position.
- Send the form, your résumé and a brief covering letter directly to the office hosting the position.
- You may work in the area of geology, engineering, Ontario Parks, land and water sciences, geographic information system, information management, enforcement, fish and wildlife, aviation, fire, marketing or education.



Ontario/Quebec Summer Student Job Exchange Program

Experience it!

Post-secondary Co-op Program

Are you enrolled in a post-secondary co-operative education program? If so, you might want to consider placement opportunities with us.

About the program

- Placements last 12 to 16 weeks.
- Positions are open to postsecondary students enrolled in a recognized co-operative education program.
- The rate of pay varies and is based on the level of education you have completed.

Applying

- Job opportunities will be posted at participating Ontario colleges and universities as they become available.
- You must submit a résumé and covering letter to the address listed in the job advertisement.

www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca

Hello/Bonjour! If you are a university student with French language skills, consider this program.

About the program

- It is a summer program.
- You must be a university student.
- You must be a permanent resident of Ontario, eligible to work in Canada and have French language skills.
- University students have the opportunity to work in a ministry or agency of the Government of Quebec and vice versa.
- Positions last 13 weeks, beginning in mid-May of each year.
- Exchange opportunities are posted with universities in December.
- You will earn \$10.00 per hour.
- Return travel costs and a housing allowance are provided.

For more information on the Exchange Program, visit the Management Board website at www.summer.mbs.gov.on.ca

Q What kinds of jobs does the Ministry of Natural Resources offer for youth?

A Through our six employment programs, we are able to offer youth of all ages a wide variety of jobs.

The kinds of jobs we offer change from year to year to reflect the needs of ministry. Responsible for the management of Ontario's natural resources, some of our work is done in a traditional office setting. Some of our work is also done out in the field, on rivers, lakes and streams, in forests and in parks. All of our youth programs are offered across Ontario.

Some examples of office jobs include doing research, working with special computer applications (such as Geographic Information Systems) and administration work. There are field jobs, especially with our Ontario Ranger and Ontario Stewardship Ranger Programs, that require you to work outside some or most of the time. Some examples of these jobs include stream rehabilitation, clearing portage trails, hiking trail design and creation, and enhancing Ontario parks.

All of the jobs we offer will provide you with on-the-job training and work experience in key ministry activities.

Q Do you have any jobs for college or university students or graduates?

A Yes. We offer the following opportunities for full-time, postsecondary students:

- Postsecondary Co-op Program – 12 to 16 weeks
- Ontario/Quebec Summer Student Job Exchange Program (university only) – 13 weeks
- Summer Experience Program – 7 weeks
- Internship Program – Up to 40 weeks.

The Internship Program, listed above, is also available to recent graduates (within five years) of a recognized postsecondary institution.

Experience it!

Q How do I get information about the programs you offer?

A Read this booklet carefully. It provides important information about each program, who can apply and how.

Visit your school's guidance counsellor or placement centre, your local MPP, ministry or employment office.

You can also get information from the following websites:

- www.youth.mnr.gov.on.ca
- www.summer.mbs.gov.on.ca
- www.youthjobs.gov.on.ca
- www.gojobs.gov.on.ca

You can also call us at (705) 755-2014 or at 1-800-667-1940.