

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENT



USDA FOREST SERVICE
ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST
SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE



The Ashley National Forest is will soon be advertising for one Visitor Services Information Receptionist position. If you enjoy being busy and working with people from all walks of life, then this may be the position for you! The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity.

POSITION: Visitor Services Information Receptionist GS-303-04/05
LOCATION: Ashley National Forest, Forest Supervisor's Office, in Vernal Utah.
DUTY STATION: Vernal, Utah
DEADLINE: October 3, 2013

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

The incumbent of this position serves as a front-line representative for the Ashley National Forest. The duty location for this position is Vernal, Utah. We are seeking a confident, innovative self-starter who will work at the administrative headquarters providing information to visitors on recreational opportunities, directions and routes of travel, distributing brochures and other printed material, and receives and directs telephone calls and visitors.

The person in this position provides information about the organization, its functions, activities, and personnel, arranges displays of informational materials in the reception area, orders and maintains publications for public distribution. Answers queries and disseminates information to the public on the transactions processed or mission oriented business of an agency program.

This position performs daily activities to support the operation of an information center, including sales, inventory, and equipment maintenance. This position also performs checkout, sales clerk, customer assistance, or other clerical duties involved in the retail sale of merchandise or stock items, and duties related to the sale, application and administration of forest product permits

The person in this position will perform office automation work requiring the use of software applications and computer equipment and analyses and collects current recreational data and updates information, and visitors with current conditions.

This position opens and closes office for daily operations, other duties may include traffic control, radio dispatching, and office administration.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING:

Please note: The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position. Response received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make this determination. This position will eventually be filled using a vacancy announcement that will be available on USA jobs, www.usajobs.gov. As soon as the announcement is available, a notice will be sent out to those who have indicated interest in the announcement.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to call or email Louis Haynes, Ashley National Forest at (435) 781-5105 ljhaynes@fs.fed.us or Don Jaques, Ashley National Forest at (435) 781-5119 djaques@fs.fed.us.

The Region:

The Intermountain Region (R4), with offices located in Ogden, Utah provides administrative oversight and support to thirteen National Forests in Utah, Nevada, western Wyoming, and southern and central Idaho and covers 31,816,792 acres in the National Forest System. There are approximately 2200 permanent employees in Region 4.

The Forest:

Ashley National Forest – <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley>.

The Ashley National Forest encompasses almost a million and a half acres in northeastern Utah and southwestern Wyoming. The Forest lies in three geographical areas: the east-west range of the Uinta Mountains, the Wyoming Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau. Elevations range from 6,000 feet to over 13,500 feet.

Steep canyons, high mountain peaks, glaciated basins, large open meadows, and desert badlands, all contain a rich diversity of vegetation and wildlife. The grasses and shrubs of the high mountain desert are replaced by pinion and juniper as the elevation rises. In mid-elevation areas, aspen dominates and becomes mixed with conifer. Higher up, the vegetation changes to conifer forest composed of lodgepole pine, fir and spruce. Grasses, forbs, and stunted, twisted conifers called krumholtz are found above timberline. Wildlife is abundant. Larger species include bear, mountain lion, moose, elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and bighorn sheep.

Neighboring lands include the Uinta and Ouray Indian Reservation to the south, the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to the west and north, and a mixture of Bureau of Land Management, State of Utah, and private lands to the east and southeast. Compared with other National Forests, relatively few small tracts of private land lie within the Ashley's boundary.

The Ashley has three major recreation attractions of national significance:

The High Uintas Wilderness, established by Congress in 1984, comprises nearly one-half million acres in the Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests. Within the wilderness, elevations range from 8,000 feet to 13,582 feet at the top of Kings Peak, the highest in Utah. The Uinta Mountain range runs east to west, from the Wasatch Mountains into Colorado. Pre-Cambrian rock formed from sediments laid down 600 million years ago makes up the core of the range. Glacial activity carved deep canyons and left a spectacular landscape of rolling, treeless peaks and stratified ridges interspersed with broad meadows and numerous lakes. The mountains below timberline are covered by coniferous forest, and meadows have streams and lush vegetation. The Wilderness is accessible from July through September, via numerous trails.

About Vernal, Utah

Vernal is situated in northeast Utah south of Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and west of Dinosaur National Monument, and is the county seat of Uintah County. Vernal has a population of

approximately 9,000 people. When combined with the residents of surrounding communities, the population of the Ashley Valley is approximately 15,000. Vernal is 180 miles east of Salt Lake City and 300 miles west of Denver.

<http://www.vernalchamber.com/>

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Vernal-Utah.html>

Climate

Vernal sits at approximately 5,000 feet above sea level. Vernal enjoys four beautiful temperate seasons; the climate is semi-arid with low humidity. Annual precipitation averages 15-20", mostly in the form of winter snow and spring/fall rain. Winter temperatures usually hover in the 20s-30s during the day, but will occasionally drop to sub-zero. Mid-summer temperatures can reach 100 degrees, but generally average in the low-mid 90s, dipping into the 50s at night.

Schools

Vernal has six elementary schools, one middle school, one junior high, one high school, and a private Christian school. The Uintah District Learning Center provides education opportunities for children with special needs. Child day-care centers and preschools are also available.

Utah State University-Uintah Basin (with branch campuses in Vernal and Roosevelt) employs about 25 resident faculty and offers 2 Associates Degrees, 23 Bachelor's Degrees, 12 Masters Degrees, and 1 doctorate degree. Uintah Basin Applied Technology College offers Certificates of Competency for technical entry-level work.

Health Care

The Ashley Valley Regional Medical Center is a 39-bed acute care facility with an emergency room and trauma care facility with 34 affiliated physicians. Specialties include family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, radiology, pathology, orthopedics, ENT, general surgery, urology, OB/GYN, podiatry, ophthalmology and psychiatry. Physicians from Salt Lake City also provide specialized, part-time services in the area. Major hospitals are located in Salt Lake City and Provo. The community also has several dentists, two optometrists, and five chiropractors. A variety of mental health professionals have practices in the community.

For extended medical care, Uintah Care Center is a 50-bed nursing home, with additional facilities to provide outpatient care on a daily basis.

Three veterinary clinics provide care for both large and small animals.

Housing

The average apartment rental is around \$750.00 to \$900.00 a month. Rental homes are not readily available. Average purchase price for a basic three-bedroom home ranges from \$185,000 to \$290,000. Government housing is not available.

Economic Base

Oil and gas exploration and production, along with oil shale, tar sands, gilsonite, and phosphate, are the major components of the local economy. Tourism is also a growing industry. Several government offices are located in Vernal and include the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Farmers Home Administration,

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and city, county, and state offices.

Recreation Opportunities

Vernal has parks, a bowling alley, movie theaters, a water slide, and an 18-hole golf course. Tennis courts, baseball and softball fields are also available. In addition, the Uintah Community Center

offers an array of recreational opportunities for all ages including indoor lap pool, indoor leisure pool with slides and water toys, a climbing wall, two full-size gyms, indoor running track, cardio balcony, an aerobic dance area, a strength area, on-site child care, three party rooms, classrooms, a public meeting area, and conference rooms.

Basketball, volleyball, and baseball leagues are available for adults. Locally sponsored children's activities include Little League football, baseball, basketball, soccer, wrestling and a swim team. The Uintah Recreation District also sponsors several "fun runs" and a triathlon (the Dino-Tri) each year.

Several nearby rivers and lakes offer excellent fishing and boating opportunities, and white-water raft trips are available through local guides. Mountain biking is a popular activity and there is a growing network of biking trails on public lands. Cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing are popular winter sports.

Vernal has several dance schools instructing ballet, jazz, clogging, and tap. Gymnastic classes for children are also available.

Civic and Service Organizations

Active community and service clubs in Vernal include the Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Elks, Toastmasters, Rotary, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Masonic Lodge, Search and Rescue, Cultural Arts, and American Legion, to name a few. The Utah Field House of Natural History is a state park facility located in downtown Vernal, and is a popular destination for tourists and area residents alike. The Golden Age Senior Center provides activities, luncheons, transportation, and dances for area senior citizens.

A new, 30,000 square foot county library was recently completed and features a children's library, teen library, community room, public use computers, two small group study rooms, library classroom, and a reading area with a fireplace, study tables, and comfortable chairs.

Churches

A wide range of religious services are available in the area.

Cultural Events

Several cultural events occur throughout the year, including the annual Outlaw Trail Festival, Festival of the Arts, Uintah County Fair, Dinosaur Roundup Rodeo, Dinosaur Days, Dino-Soar Hot Air Balloon Festival, a fall story-telling festival, and the annual Christmas Fair. The Uintah Arts Council sponsors several musical and other cultural events.

Vernal also hosts a small Farmer's Market every Saturday from July through September. In addition to fresh fruit and other produce, a variety of crafts, locally produced meats, and artwork is offered for sale.

INTEREST SHEET for Title/Series/Grade: Visitor Services Information Receptionist GS-303-04/05

Unit: Ashley National Forest, Supervisor's Office

Date of Outreach Notice: 09/03/2013

Respond to Outreach by: 10/03/2013

Name:
Current Job: Title/Series/Grade
Permanent or Term Pathways Intern:
Phone number:
E-mail address:
Forest Service Region/Unit or Bureau of Land Management Office:
Current Supervisor's Name:
Current Supervisor's Phone: