



## **Environmental Sustainability Educator**

### **About Us:**

MEarth is a multi-faceted environmental sustainability education program that inspires youth and adults alike to be better stewards of our selves, our communities, and our environment. Annually, more than 5,500 people participate in one or more of our four programs: ClassroomConnect, NatureConnect, FoodConnect and CommunityConnect.

At the ten-acre Hilton Bialek Habitat, located adjacent to Carmel Middle School (at the mouth of Carmel Valley), we provide hands-on, experiential learning opportunities to schools, county agencies, partner nonprofits, local businesses, and interested citizens from throughout Monterey County.

Our nationally recognized outdoor learning center includes a large meadow, bird habitat, monarch butterfly habitat, a pond, an outdoor amphitheater, a LEED-certified culinary classroom, outdoor kitchen with wood-fired oven, organic vegetable and herb gardens, heirloom fruit orchard, off-grid solar greenhouse, and native plant nursery.

For more information about MEarth, please visit:  
[www.MEarthCarmel.org](http://www.MEarthCarmel.org) | [www.facebook.com/MEarthCarmel](https://www.facebook.com/MEarthCarmel)

### **About The Position:**

MEarth seeks a Environmental Sustainability Program Educator to lead the outdoor natural history-focused aspects of our education programs, and support other programming as needed.

This is a unique opportunity for the right individual to thrive using their expertise as an environmental/ecoliteracy educator, by both delivering educational programs for school groups, and supporting local science teachers in their use of the Hilton Bialek Habitat. As well, we seek a person whose professional/personal interests would inspire them to also support MEarth's culinary programming.

### **Main Responsibilities:**

This person coordinates the outdoor and garden learning aspects of MEarth's environmental sustainability programs, including, but not limited to:

- 1) using the outdoor learning labs and food gardens at MEarth's facilities to teach environmental education and address Next Generation Science Standard Learning for K-12 students visiting from throughout Monterey County;
- 2) supporting teachers from the neighboring middle school in using those same outdoor labs and gardens with their students;
- 3) teaching primarily elementary students about healthy eating and lifestyle choices by leading them through the preparation and cooking of foods harvested from our organic garden;
- 4) coordinating restoration projects at local natural areas and then supervising volunteers implementing these projects.

Additionally, this person will support other staff in [1] developing weekend programming ideas, [2] coordinating special community partnerships for two major annual events, and [3] coordinating staff and programming for summer camp.

Finally, this person will work with our Property Manager on the development and ecological management of our Outdoor Habitat Labs, including the onsite oversight supervision of volunteers who support our program delivery and habitat maintenance.

Through the following four programs, the Environmental Sustainability Educator will teach students and adults about how we can use gardens, food, and a love of conserving natural spaces to better care for our selves, our communities, and our environment:

*ClassroomConnect:* The Environmental Sustainability Educator is the lead coordinator of our habitat-based programming that ties directly into the Carmel Unified School District curriculum. Taking advantage of our 10 acres of natural habitat and one acre organic garden, this position collaborates with classroom teachers to create teaching labs and natural history-based curricula that bring traditional classroom learning to life.

*NatureConnect:* The Environmental Sustainability Educator will design and teach all of our natural history programming, which invites students to explore and restore local habitats. Our field-based educational experiences explore local flora and fauna, watersheds, the relationship between humans and natural landscapes, and environmental sustainability.

*FoodConnect:* The Environmental Sustainability Educator works with students of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds to provide first hand experiences in the simple act of harvesting, cooking, and connecting to their food. This takes place in our LEED-certified culinary classroom, wood-fired oven, organic edible garden, heirloom fruit orchard, off-grid solar greenhouse, and native plant nursery.

*CommunityConnect:* The Environmental Sustainability Educator supports other staff in designing and delivering evening and weekend programs for local residents, mainly adults and families. Specific to garden and habitat-focused events and workshops, MEarth offers culinary and garden workshops, sustainable chef dinners, and summer camps. *[NOTE: MEarth is actively discussing and designing new youth leadership programs for which this position will be primarily responsible.]*

#### **Key Qualifications:**

- Ability to develop outdoor learning labs and curriculum to engage students in place-based natural history and environmental sustainability
- Ability to make outdoor learning and education FUN! and engaging
- Bachelor's degree in education or science related field
- 1-3 years of experience as an informal or formal educator. The ideal candidate will have some experience teaching in school gardens
- Experience in public speaking
- Knowledge of local ecological systems
- Experience managing groups of students in an outdoor setting
- Ability to meaningfully engage volunteers who are providing MEarth with habitat and garden maintenance
- A passion for environmental sustainability
- Ability to work in a collaborative, fast-paced, creative work environment, as well as work independently in a highly organized manner with a keen eye for detail

**Additional Beneficial Qualifications:**

- Experience working in the nonprofit sector
- A willingness to support independent teachers in the set-up and break-down of labs and materials
- Well versed in Apple products and Google platforms (Gmail, Google Calendars, Google Drive).
- Additional experience and knowledge in the following areas is a plus:
  - You have a passion for inspiring youth into leadership areas, specifically around environmental sustainability
  - You are passionate about working with underserved communities in nutrition education
  - You enjoy event production and have experience in facilitating events/workshops
  - You have knowledge and direct experience in integrating seasonal garden produce into nutrition curriculum, scaling recipes, bulk purchasing etc.
  - You have developed and documented curriculum for education programs and have experience utilizing impact evaluation tools with students
  - Ideal candidates will be fluent in spanish and english

**Working Conditions:**

The Environmental Sustainability Educator will be involved in a wide variety of physical activities related to outdoor and garden education, and must be comfortable teaching outdoors in all weather conditions. The Environmental Sustainability Educator will regularly need to [1] bend, crouch, or kneel to access information and/or to assist students from ground level to 4.5 feet above the ground; [2] push, pull, and lift instructional equipment and supplies; [3] sit on chairs or the floor, lean over for prolonged periods of time, and reach in all directions, and [4] work outdoors for prolonged periods of time.

**Hours and Compensation:**

This is a full time, 40 hour/week, exempt position. Salary and paid vacation package is competitive. Presently, no insurance is offered. However, the Board of Directors and new Executive Director have made securing increased funding to provide insurance for all staff a high priority objective for the organization.

**To Apply:**

Please follow the link below to apply. No phone calls please.

<https://goo.gl/forms/g1y6Zjl5dDb114tF2>

Successful completion of the hiring process is contingent on applicant passing a multi-agency live-scan fingerprint/background check. (paid for by MEarth)

**Women, people of color and LGBT candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. MEarth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**



