



WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

WARDEN RECRUITMENT



DNR Community Service Officers ready for training day.

Now Hiring! Apply Today For A Summer 2025 Community Service Officer Position

The Community Service Officer (CSO) summer opportunity is open for applications! Please visit [Wisc.jobs](https://www.wisconsin.gov/jobs) to apply. We are offering multiple openings throughout the state, including:

- Mellen
- Grantsburg
- Sherwood
- Madison
- Sturgeon Bay
- Brule

- Dodgeville
- Kansasville
- La Crosse
- Wausau
- Woodruff
- Croix Falls
- Boulder Junction
- Eagle

The CSO position is a paid summer internship (\$20.65 an hour) and is a great opportunity for those looking to become DNR conservation wardens. Depending on the field station, CSOs are tasked with patrolling state parks and properties and educating the public on regulations related to state properties and campgrounds, aquatic invasive species and recreational vehicles. CSOs may also help resolve low-level conflicts between outdoor recreators. The CSO position is non-credentialed/non-sworn and is primarily a customer service position. This position is preparatory to the conservation warden position. CSOs will have the opportunity to work with their local wardens.

Here are some important items to note regarding the CSO position:

- We are accepting applications until Jan. 21, 2025.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
- The position's start day is May 19, 2025.
- The summer position will end on or around Sept. 6, 2025.
- Applicants must reside in Wisconsin by the time they begin working. Housing is not provided.
- Applicants must possess a valid driver's license and:
 - Have a minimum of two years of licensed driving experience.
 - Have not had three or more moving violations and/or at-fault accidents in the past two years.
 - Have no OWI/DUI violations within the past year.

[View the job posting for more details.](#)

Andrew's Journey From A CSO To Conservation Warden



Warden Andrew Amundsen with seized walleye from a fishing investigation.

Class of 2024 Conservation Warden Andrew Amundsen started his career with the DNR as a Community Service Officer at Devil's Lake State Park in Sauk County during the summer of 2023. He recently completed field training and is stationed at that same park where he served as a CSO.

Warden Amundsen was inspired to be a warden at a young age by his father who worked in law enforcement, as well as by his love for duck hunting, deer hunting and ice fishing. Prior to obtaining an associate degree in criminal justice at Western Technical College in Sparta, Warden Amundsen spent four years in the U.S. Army. While in college, Warden Amundsen worked for the La Crosse County Sheriff's Office and transported prisoners. These experiences all helped him prepare for a career with the DNR.

During his time as a CSO, he gained valuable experience working with the local wardens, making contacts with park users, resolving low-level user conflicts, writing violation notices, working traffic control and assisting with rescues of lost and injured visitors. He says one of the highlights from his CSO experience was assisting with the rescue of an individual who had fallen off the park bluffs. He was able to provide first aid and get help.

Warden Amundsen also got the opportunity to join wardens as they conducted investigations and interviews during some cases. The most valuable parts of the CSO opportunity for Warden Amundsen were getting to know the park staff and wardens at Devil's Lake State Park, learning more about the DNR and getting to

know the park itself. These experiences as a CSO prepared him well to become a conservation warden.

In January 2024, Warden Amundsen began his job as a conservation warden and started the 720-hour DNR law enforcement academy in Sparta. He graduated from the academy with the top academic score in his class. His favorite parts of the training program were the camaraderie with another fellow CSO-to-warden hire and being able to see so much of Wisconsin while in field training.

Warden Amundsen would tell anyone considering the CSO position how the program benefited and prepared him for the position as a conservation warden. He is very thankful for the skills it provided him and the relationships he built along the way.

Reminder: 2025 Wisconsin DNR Career Fairs

In our November newsletter, we highlighted some upcoming Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) career open houses. These events will have DNR representatives from multiple programs available to answer questions about working at the DNR.

Depending on the location, you'll have the opportunity to connect with DNR employees from wildlife management, fisheries management, environmental enforcement, law enforcement (wardens), outdoor skills trainers, forestry, parks and more. No preregistration is necessary. Bring your questions.

- [Jan. 18, 2025 at the Eau Claire DNR Service Center](#)
- [Jan. 24, 2025 at the Oshkosh DNR Service Center](#)
- [Jan. 25, 2025 at Havenwoods State Forest \(Milwaukee\)](#)
- [Jan. 25, 2025 at the Fitchburg DNR Service Center](#)

LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A WARDEN

Working For The DNR

The DNR employs a large, diverse workforce throughout our state. We seek employees with a strong customer service philosophy and an attitude of helpfulness.

Since 1879, conservation wardens have been proudly protecting the people and natural resources of Wisconsin. Our conservation wardens are certified law enforcement officers who patrol statewide day and night, investigate natural resource-related violations, and ensure the safety of everyone who enjoys the outdoors. Conservation wardens use education, enforcement and community involvement to accomplish their duties and promote the conservation ethic. The conservation warden career is both unique and rewarding, and requires

candidates with a passion for helping others, communication skills and an appreciation for the outdoors.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HIRING PROCESS](#)

[CONTACT A WARDEN TO LEARN MORE](#)

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Diversity & Inclusion Statement:**

The Division of Public Safety and Resource Protection is responsible for protecting natural resources, which are essential for the lives, health and happiness of every person in Wisconsin. We are committed to creating a culture of inclusivity, building trusting relationships, and thoughtfully engaging and serving our diverse public.



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Call 1-888-936-7463 (TTY Access via relay - 711) from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.

