

Wetlands & Woodlands Summer Camp Staff 2021

Beth Boonstra – Summer Camp Environmental Educator I (All sessions)



Beth is a senior at Calvin studying Elementary Education with a concentration in English Language Arts. She is from Crete, Illinois and enjoys art such as painting, ceramics, photography, printmaking, and weaving. She spent this past May in California and visited Sequoia National Park where she saw a bear in the wild! Although this is her first summer working at the Wetlands and Woodlands Summer Camp, she has been a camp counselor for the past three summers at Camp Roger in Rockford, Michigan. She is excited to learn more about the Michigan ecosystem and can't wait to meet her new campers!

Fun Facts about Miss Beth:

- Beth has had all sorts of animals as pets... goats, rabbits, axolotls, parrot, hedgehog, peacock, turkeys, potbelly pig, deer, and many more. Right now she just has one cat, but it is having babies! This summer she will be caring for the new kittens and looking for fun name suggestions.
- Beth has spent a week on North Manitou Island backpacking and camping.
- She loves finding creatures in the woods, especially snakes, salamanders, turtles, and frogs.

Linda Bowman – Summer Camp Environmental Educator II (Sessions 1, 2, 3 & 4)



Linda is a lifelong educator with a passion for the outdoors. The second of six children, she always envied her brothers who got to do yard work while she had to work indoors. She grew up in Minnesota where she remembers playing in the woods across the street. Linda recently retired after 40 years of teaching elementary students for the Grand Rapids Public Schools. She is also involved in several local organizations including Plaster Creek Stewards and River City Wild Ones. This is her third summer working at the Preserve.

Fun Facts about Miss Linda:

- Some of her favorite Michigan animals are the wood frog and the turkey vulture because she loves spring and these critters are both signs of spring.
- Miss Linda currently has three cats.
- She spent several summers at Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore participating in the Teacher Ranger Teacher program.

Jeanette Henderson – Camp Director (All sessions)



Jeanette is an interpretive manager directing the educational programs, communications and marketing, and native plant propagation program here at the Preserve. She oversees the day to day management of the Bunker Interpretive Center and the production greenhouse. A large percentage of her job is mentoring and training Calvin students in the fields of environmental education, interpretation, and native plant production. Jeanette's previous professional experience includes coordinating programs and events for Michigan Audubon, working as a summer naturalist at several of Michigan State Parks, and teaching marine education programs for the University of Georgia's Marine Education Center and Aquarium in Savannah, Georgia. She holds a BS in Biology from Calvin University and

will complete a Masters in Community Based Education and Leadership from Stevenson University in Fall 2021. In her free time, she enjoys designing flowers for weddings and events, gardening, cooking, and traveling.

Fun Facts about Miss Jeanette:

- Her least favorite animal are snakes! It has a good portion of her life to not scream when she sees one. Even naturalists have fears! However, she is fascinated by most every other creepy crawlies. Millipedes, grasshoppers, slugs, worms, spiders and katydids are just a few creatures that fascinate her.
- Her childhood dream was to be a marine biologist!
- Abbie Kat, her calico cat plays fetch and rolls on her back to be petted just like a dog.

Jennifer Steensma Hoag – Professor, Photography & Visual Culture (Session 6)

Jennifer Steensma Hoag is a conceptual artist who works primarily in photography and video. Steensma Hoag received an MFA in imaging arts from Rochester Institute of Technology, and she has lectured on photography at Rochester Institute of Technology, the Dryden Theater at the International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, and the New York Public Library. Awards for her artwork include an artist-in-residence with The Center for Land Use Interpretation, a Calvin Research Fellowship, and a Community Giving Program Grant from the Target Corporation. Hoag's photographs have been exhibited at universities and art centers across the country. Her current and recent photography series, "Broken Models" and "Compromised Beauty," address environmental concerns. Recent international exhibitions include *Photographic Visions - Summer 2019: A*



curated international photography exhibition in PH21 Photography Gallery's Project Room in Budapest, and in *Environment Documenta* in Rome. Recent publications include *Minding Nature* (a publication of the Center for Humans and Nature), *Aquifer: The Florida Review Online*, and *The Hopper* (The Literary Magazine of Green Writers Press). She is a professor in the Department of Art & Art History at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she has taught for over twenty-five years. Her work can be found at jennifersteensmahoag.com

Aidan Waroway – Summer Camp Environmental Educator I (All Sessions)

Aidan is a junior at Calvin studying Elementary Education with a concentration in Integrated Science. He is originally from Ann Arbor, MI where his two sisters, mom, dad, and two dogs live. Aidan enjoys being outdoors, hanging out with his friends, watching movies, listening to music, running, and doing water sports at his cottage during the summer. Most recently, he spent a week hiking in several national parks throughout Washington, Oregon, and California with some of his family. Although this will be his first summer working at the Wetlands and Woodlands camp, he has fond memories of being a camp counselor at many Vacation Bible Schools over the years. Aidan has always wanted to become a teacher and is so excited to be able to spend his summer teaching science (his favorite subject). He is looking forward to learning more about the Ecosystem Preserve, as well as getting the opportunity to spend time with the campers!



Fun Facts about Mr Aidan:

- As a kid, Aidan and his sisters would spend hours walking around their tiny backyard swamp catching frogs, collecting them in a large bucket, setting them free at the end of the day, then returning the next day to do it all over again.
- He has traveled to some pretty cool places with his family such as Hawaii, Costa Rica, Aruba, and most recently, he toured National Parks throughout the Western United States.
- Aidan is a huge fan of the Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter, Star Wars, Marvel, and Disney Universes and enjoys watching movies and listening to soundtracks from all of the above and more.

Julie Wilbourn – Department Assistant

Julie grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, and has a B.S. degree in Marketing from Miami University. Her work experience includes project management and analysis of market research studies, as well as market analysis and product management of various manufactured products. Most recently, she spends time volunteering at her children's schools, coordinating enrichment presentations, book fairs, and hot lunch programs. Julie joined our staff in 2012, and in regards to camp assists Jeanette with camp registration and marketing. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling, and outdoor activities like biking and swimming.



Fun Facts about Miss Julie:

- Her favorite spot in the preserve is on North Pond deck in the fall, because when the wind blows the leaves off the trees and sends them swirling over the water, you feel like you're in a giant snow globe.
- If she could be a tree, she would be a dogwood.
- She doesn't have any pets - at the moment, she thinks her family is enough to take care of! But she has had ladybug, ant & butterfly habitats at home.

Volunteer Camp Assistants

We are grateful to the following teenagers for donating their time and skills to serve as Camp Assistants this summer.

Session #	Camp Assistants
Session 1	Walter, Maya, Zack
Session 2	Audrey H., Anna, Maya, Audrey G.
Session 3	Robin, Miriam, Ella, Celia
Session 4	Robin, Ella, Kaleb, Audrey G.