



Forestry Technician (Recreation)

GS-0462-03/04/05

Ocala National Forest

Silver Springs, FL

The National Forests in Florida will soon be advertising a Forestry Technician (Recreation) position on the Ocala National Forest. The duty station will be Silver Springs, FL.

DUTIES

The Ocala National Forest is looking for a highly motivated, self-starter that works well with people, enjoys challenging hard work, and practices safety first. The incumbent will provide support to a complex recreation resource including numerous developed and dispersed recreation sites, trails, interpretive services and visitor information services. Assures recreation sites and recreation areas are operated and maintained in accordance with operation and maintenance plans by inspecting, reporting and making recommendations for corrective action or improvements. Serves as the primary field fee collection officer for the unit (attention to detail required). Accomplishes compliance checks to ensure visitor payment of user fees. Assists with the operation of three visitor centers. Trains and supervises volunteers/SCSEP's for the visitor centers. Visits recreation areas to assure visitor compliance with established rules and regulations and takes appropriate action in accordance with established rules, regulations and policies. Assists with trail maintenance and OHV operations.

Forest Service personnel are committed to quality results on the ground with ecosystem restoration being a top priority. This job is principally involved with safe execution of quality work in recreation and trail management.

It involves weekend and holiday work, and while the Ocala National Forest is an exciting and rewarding place to work, summer field work here is in extremely harsh conditions that best suited for resilient individuals that can perform well in extreme hot, humid weather in thick vegetation filled with insects.

Additionally, the incumbent works with several other teams and is involved in projects dealing with the recreation, silviculture, timber, wildlife, special uses, and other areas.

THE OCALA NATIONAL FOREST

The Ocala NF is comprised of the Lake George and Seminole Ranger Districts; however, it is managed as one administrative unit under the District Ranger.

The reporting station is located in Silver Springs, FL approximately 20 miles from Ocala, FL. The town of Ocala is located in the rolling horse country of north central Florida, with a population of 46,000. Marion County has a population of 300,000 and is home to the Silver River State Park and the Appleton Art Museum. The Atlantic Ocean is a 60-minute drive to the east and a 60-minute drive to the Gulf of Mexico to the west. Tourism, anchored by the famous Silver Springs Attraction (<http://www.silversprings.com/index-flash.htm>), contributes to the local economic base.

Ocala is home to Central Florida Community College and the University of Florida is located in Gainesville, Florida, approximately 35 miles north. There are approximately 45 public schools, including seven high schools, and there are numerous private schools and academies in the county.

Ocala has three full-service hospitals and numerous walk-in clinics. There are several shopping centers; additional shopping is available in Gainesville (35 miles), Orlando (72 miles) and Tampa (94 miles). Housing is plentiful with the average selling price of single-family homes going for \$150,000 (higher in some parts of the city, and lower in others). Rental houses, apartments and duplexes are also available.

Ocala/Marion County is a fast growing area with many recreational opportunities. Within Marion County there are numerous fresh water springs. For more information on Ocala, please visit <http://www.ocalacc.com/>.

For information on National Forests in Florida, please visit: <http://www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/florida>

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The vacancy announcements for this position are posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at, www.usajobs.opm.gov, under vacancy announcement **ADS07-R5-RECREATION-345DP (general public) or ADS07-R5-RECREATION-345G (status applicants)**. **When applying select Silver Springs, FL as your desired location to work.** Those that wish to be considered for this position must apply to the vacancy announcement by July 12. The Referral List for this position will be issued to the selecting official on July 13. All applicants who have applied to the announcement on or before the listed dates and are found to be qualified and in the quality group will be referred for consideration.

OUTREACH RESPONSE

Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact Bret Bush at (352) 625-2520 or email at bbush@fs.fed.us. No later than July 12.