Position Description: Community Liaison, Rocky Neck Salt Marsh Restoration Project

Position Title: Community Liaison
Location: Residents anywhere in Connecticut (those in New London & Hartford Counties strongly encouraged to apply)
Reports To: Project Manager
Compensation: Stipend of \$2,500 per Community Liaison (100 hours total)
Position Duration: Date of hire until September 30, 2027

Project Description:

The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut received a federal grant for the planning and design of a salt marsh restoration project at Rocky Neck State Park. The project goals include improving public access, recreational use, and educational activities for current and future Rocky Neck visitors. More project details are available on the <u>project website</u>. The project teams (including staff from CT DEEP, Save the Sound, Restore America's Estuaries, CT NERR, and Ducks Unlimited) and Community Liaisons will work together to support ongoing community participation.

Position Summary:

The project team is seeking two Community Liaisons to assist in ensuring broad and inclusive engagement throughout the project period. The liaisons will play a vital role by connecting Rocky Neck visitors and non-visitors with the project teams. The liaisons should have wide-ranging connections to diverse local communities and/or environmental/outdoor/recreational/cultural groups and be able to leverage connections to increase and enhance community participation during the project's eight public workshops and celebration event between summer of 2025 and September 30, 2027.

Key Responsibilities:

- Attend (in-person or virtual) quarterly meetings with the project manager
- Connect the project team with community groups, Rocky Neck visitors and non-visitors
- Assist in planning and outreach for the public workshops and the celebration event
- Attend up to eight public workshops between 2025-2027:
 - Estimated three public workshops in 2025; three in 2026; two in 2027

Qualifications:

- Strong connections with diverse community groups
- Expansive network of contacts that includes Rocky Neck visitors and non-visitors
- Experience in community engagement, organizing, relationship building, and/or networking
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills (e.g., exhibiting inviting character traits such as active listening, empathy, and compassion)
- Bilingual skills are a plus (e.g., Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Chinese, or other)

Interested in becoming a Community Liaison? To apply, write a cover letter (describing your experiences connecting with and/or advocating for diverse local communities, explaining how you would ensure broad community participation in project events, or why you're a good fit for the role) and send your resume (if you have one) to: rockyneckproject@tnc.org

Applications close: July 7, 2025, and the positions will begin by the end of July 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of being a Community Liaison? In addition to supporting local communities, the Community Liaisons will expand their networks with community leaders, community groups, and environmental agencies and non-profits (such as CT DEEP, The Nature Conservancy, Save the Sound, Restore America's Estuaries, CT NERR, and Ducks Unlimited). Community Liaisons will also learn more about how community engagement and participatory planning supports local restoration projects.

What is the work schedule for the Community Liaisons?

The schedule may vary by the week. There could be some weeks with no work hours and other weeks with up to five hours. Work hours will be influenced by the project's upcoming community engagement events, as the Community Liaisons will be actively reaching out to their networks to support high attendance at these events.

What does the hour-to-hour work as a Community Liaison look like?

It varies. Since outreach to the Community Liaison's network and local community groups is a big part of this role, work could include phone calls, emails, putting up flyers, door knocking, or other ways to get the word out. In addition, work includes attending meetings with the project manager/community engagement team or the project's community engagement events.

Will Community Liaisons be employees of The Nature Conservancy?

No, the community liaisons will not be employees of The Nature Conservancy. They will be contractors.

What is the compensation structure for the Community Liaisons?

Community Liaisons will be paid monthly for the hours they work.