**2026 Environmental Leadership Program Application**

Due Monday November 3rd, 9:00 a.m.

*Because Dr. Katie Lynch is teaching in Italy then on sabbatical, there are no Environmental Education projects during the 2025-26 academic year. Check back Fall 2026 for the 2026-2027 Environmental Education projects! If you are interested in receiving credit for an internship related to environmental education, see the* [*ENVS 404 Internships website*](https://socialsciences.uoregon.edu/envs/experiential-learning/internships)*. Local organizations that have offered environmental education internships in the past include Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, Nearby Nature, Partners for Sustainable Schools, School Garden Project, Whole Earth Nature School, and WREN.*

**Eligibility**

* Open to all undergraduates (from any major) with at least junior standing and a 2.6 GPA. However, preference will be given to ENVS and ESCI majors, especially seniors graduating in Spring 2026.
* We warmly encourage students from diverse identities and backgrounds to apply. We believe that varied perspectives and lived experiences foster creative, dynamic and effective teams.

**Deadlines and Directions**

* Treat this application as you would a job application: be thorough and proofread.
* Save your application as a Word (.docx) or PDF file. I cannot accept .pages files.
* E-mail your application and resume to Peg Boulay (*boulay [at] uoregon.edu*). I will not accept hand-written applications or hard copies.

***Why is there an application and interview for ELP?***

*ELP emphasizes collaborative leadership to accomplish shared objectives in a team setting. This application is less about being a competitive process than it is ensuring that 1) our hands-on work with community partners is a good fit for you and your goals, and 2) you understand the schedule, structure and logistics of our projects since ELP is different from other courses. Also, since we also focus on professional development, our application and interview allow you to practice your career readiness skills (and gain feedback) in a low-stakes setting before you graduate and enter the job market.*



**Step 1. Project Selection**

1. Review the 3 project descriptions on the board outside 140 Columbia Hall, in the flier sent to the esundergrads listserv, or on the [ELP website](https://socialsciences.uoregon.edu/envs/hands-on/leadership) to determine which project you would like to apply for. If you have questions, email Katie (for Environmental Education projects) or Peg (for Conservation Science in Action projects).
2. Indicate your first and second choice out of the 6 team options with a “1” and a “2” in the charts below, in the box to the left of the team description. If you have a very strong preference for a particular team, please make note of it.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Conservation Science in Action Teams (Winter – Spring series)** | |
| Notes and Prerequisites: These are two-term projects—you will enroll in *ENVS 427 Environmental and Ecological Monitoring* (Area 2AA for ESCI majors and Area 4 for ENVS majors) winter term and *ENVS 429 Environmental Leadership Program* (Area 5) in spring. Required prerequisite: You must have previously taken either ENVS 202, BI 213, GEOL 203 or similar introductory science course(s). **Important note: BI 213, CH 223, ERTH 203 and PHYS 203 conflict with ENVS 429 spring term. If you need to take these courses during spring term to graduate Spring 2026, you will not be able to participate in the Conservation Science in Action projects.** | |
| **Rank** | **Project** |
|  | Option # 4: NEW! Floodplain Function |
|  | Option # 5: Restoration & Research – Reforestation |
|  | Option # 6: Restoration & Research – Pollinators |

**Step 2. Contact Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Student ID |  |
| Major |  |
| Year (Jr/Sr) |  |
| GPA |  |
| UO email address |  |
| Gmail address |  |

**Step 3. Application Questions**

*Note: your answers should be concise – ideally 3-4 sentences – yet detailed enough to fully answer the question.*

1. **Why do you want to be a part of this team? In other words, what are your motivations and expectations, and do you have any specific learning goals?**
2. **What knowledge, skills, and/or experience would you bring to the team?**
3. **Please describe any coursework you have taken that is relevant to the project you are applying to, making special reference to specific knowledge you’ve gained that will be valuable to the team. For Conservation Science in Action projects, be sure to mention any science courses that fulfill the prerequisite requirement.**
4. **Please describe any volunteer work, internships, research, hobbies, or paid work that you have completed that is relevant to the project you are applying for.**
5. **ELP emphasizes team-based collaboration and communication skills.**

**A. First, describe your general experience working in team settings. What kind of teams have you worked with (i.e., team size, composition and purpose)? Were your overall experiences positive or negative? Why?**

**B. Second, describe a specific example of how you worked in a team setting to complete a task or project. What was your role and how did your team work together? (e.g., What processes or relationships worked well? What processes or relationships could have been improved?).**

**Step 4. Writing Sample**

In **ONE** paragraph, answer this question:

Choose any ecological topic or issue (e.g., an animal’s behavior, a process such as flooding, a relationship such as predator-prey, a classification such as a type of soil, a conservation issue such as habitat loss, the ecological basis for habitat restoration, etc.). Describe the topic or issue in scientific terms. Your description should be clear, concise, interesting and based on good scientific information. You are welcome to use an example of your writing from a previous class!

**Step 5. How did you learn about this opportunity?**

* + Advising meeting with Tykeson Adviser
  + Have friends who were in ELP previously
  + Email announcement on ENVS undergraduate listserve
  + Econews electronic newsletter
  + Participated in Environmental Leaders ARC
  + ELP presentation, announcement, or flier in one of my classes. Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + ENVS/ELP website
  + Flier on ENVS or ELP bulletin board
  + Other? Please let us know:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_