



**Mississippi National River and Recreation Area**

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**Teacher/Ranger/Teacher Program 2009  
Position Description Resource Management Division  
At the Mississippi River's National Park  
Twin Cities metropolitan area, Minnesota  
[www.nps.gov/miss](http://www.nps.gov/miss)**

The Teacher-Ranger who works with the Resource Management Division will spend time working with the park Biological Technicians (Biotechs). Major duties include identifying and inventorying plant species with emphasis on exotic plants. The Biotechs carry out exotic plant control projects, such as buckthorn, honeysuckle and garlic mustard removal using a variety of techniques such as herbicides, bio-control, cutting, pulling and digging.

Work is done on partner project sites as well as NPS islands. Island sites are reached via boat or canoe on the Mississippi River. Global Positioning Systems are occasionally used to record data. Field observations are recorded such as unusual findings, animals sighted, human use of islands, and any damage, trash or structures noticed. There is occasional interaction with island users and visitors which involves education about the NPS and exotic plant removal as well as answering any questions the visitor/island user might have. Work is performed outdoors, occasionally under adverse weather conditions.

Teacher-Rangers will also have an opportunity to work on other natural and cultural resource initiatives with the park's Community Planners, Natural Resource Specialist, Outdoor Recreation Planner, and Water Quality Specialist, as well as the park's Historian and the GIS and Development Specialist.

Even though the focus of this position is natural and cultural resource management, the Teacher-Ranger will have several opportunities to work with rangers from the Interpretation and Education Division. The goal is to have the Teacher-Ranger be able to share many different park experiences and career opportunities with their students and other teachers.

Applicants should enjoy working outdoors and tolerate a wide range of outdoor conditions. A driver's license and experience paddling are helpful. Teacher-Rangers work independently or with light supervision, and work schedules may vary with weekends and some evening hours possible.

**Duties when back in the classroom:**

- Incorporates activities related to the National Park Service into their classroom curriculum during the school year.

- Wears the NPS uniform during National Park Week and conducts activities related to the National Park Service and gives several presentations to their classes, a possible school assembly, and to one other school within the district.

Note: Middle or High School Science Teacher preferred