

Breitenbush Hot Springs

Retreat and Conference Center
www.breitenbush.com
503.854.3321
P.O. Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342

Dear Applicant,

Greetings from Breitenbush!

Thank you for your interest in Breitenbush Hot Springs. Living and working here is a unique experience. We are an intentional community and cooperative. We operate a retreat and conference center in a rugged and beautiful mountain setting with abundant hot springs. We serve thousands of guests year round. Our emphasis is on service - to our guests, each other and to the greater global and universal community. Working at Breitenbush requires dedication to this service ethic, a sense of joy and excitement about your work, acceptance of personal responsibility and accountability, a desire for creativity and productivity and a willingness to communicate openly and honestly at all times.

We are a small community - especially in the late Fall, Winter and early Spring when around 50 permanent staff work here. Regular full time positions are often available, though most of our hiring takes place in the Spring for a number of temporary "Summer" positions. These temporary positions usually begin in May and require a commitment through September. The best time to apply for one of these positions is in March. We also hire people to work as "fill-ins" for a relatively short period of time to cover for a staff member who is on leave or vacation.

Our staff is organized into the following teams: Office/Guest Reception, Kitchen, Maintenance, Systems, Construction (summer only), Housekeeping, Childcare, Administration, Events & Marketing, and Healing Arts (for massage positions we require a current Oregon Massage License). The majority of Summer positions are available on the Kitchen, Office, Healing Arts and Construction teams. Each team is fairly autonomous and makes its own recommendations about hiring. The Personnel Coordinator facilitates the overall hiring process. Please indicate on your application which team(s) you are interested in. Be sure and read the required skill sets for each team. Number the teams you apply for in order of your preference: #1 would be your first choice and so on.

All staff are paid Oregon State minimum wage, provided with housing (tents for summer staff, single or shared cabins for regular staff), food and prepared meals at cost and use of all facilities. In addition, regular staff are offered health benefits, paid vacation and numerous other benefits. Childcare is provided for regular staff during working hours, and in some cases, arrangements are made to provide childcare for children of part time staff members.

Living and working here, while very rewarding, is also very challenging for some. Housing is rustic and most people share bathroom and cooking facilities. The

delight of living in a tent can turn into discomfort if you're not adequately prepared for cold nights and rainy days. Communication with the "outside world" is limited. Telephone use may be limited during the day when most lines are for business use only. Although we do provide Internet connections for our business, personal use is restricted, as we have limited bandwidth and the needs of the business take precedence. Television reception is non-existent and radio is spotty. The newspaper is 12 miles away. Also, in order to protect native wildlife, no dogs are allowed on Breitenbush property and the number of cats allowed is limited.

While it is true that housing space is limited, we encourage families with children to apply. We would love to talk with you about the positions available and how we may best meet your needs. Please indicate on your application if there is anyone who would want to live with you here.

If you're interested in becoming part of our community, please read over the included information send us a completed application. Mail it to us at "Attn: Personnel" or email it to personnel@breitenbush.com. Please be patient with our process. We receive far more applications than there are available positions and each one is reviewed by the Personnel Coordinator and the appropriate teams. We will contact you if we are able to offer you a "working interview".

A team will contact you directly if you are chosen for an interview and will ask you to come to Breitenbush for 3 to 5 days. During this time you will work with that team, meet the members of the community, and be introduced to life at Breitenbush. You will be provided with room and board and will be paid for your time. After your interview, you will be asked to leave Breitenbush for at least 5 days. This gives both you and the community the time and space to make a thoughtful decision.

Thanks again for your interest in Breitenbush!

Who We Are and What We Do

We are an intentional community which operates Breitenbush Hot Springs Retreat and Conference Center located 60 miles east of Salem, Oregon on the western slope of the Cascade mountains. Our property consists of 154 acres of beautiful forest, river, streams, and hot springs; approximately 20 acres are developed, with guest and community facilities. We generate our own electricity from the river and supply our heating needs from geothermal wells. The hot springs and wells provide the mineral water for our hot tubs and steam sauna. We have about 100 buildings on the property which include: the Lodge, a large dining and conference building, a kitchen, a massage / healing arts building, staff dwellings, guest cabins, a Sanctuary, the Forest Shelter, Buddha's Playhouse, Cedar River Yurt, and various other structures.

Breitenbush Hot Springs is a rustic hot springs retreat that was built in the late 1920's and early 1930's when using the hot mineral waters was considered an important way for people to heal from various maladies. In the early 1940's, 50's and 60's, the land was a favorite place for people to camp or have a simple cabin

and enjoy the beautiful natural environment and hot waters. For ten years, until 1977, the property was idle. Then Alex Beamer purchased the property and spent several years restoring the old resort and getting it ready to host guests again. People who wished to put their energies into this project, and who worked well with the people already here, were invited to come and join in restoring the facilities. In 1981, the Breitenbush Community started hosting guests on the property, who participated in a variety of workshops, celebrations or personal retreats.

In 1985, the community purchased the land from Alex. In 1989, we formed a worker cooperative corporation through which the workers now own the business. The worker / owner cooperative participates in a profit or loss program, makes most of the major decisions about business and community affairs, and elects our Board of Directors. To be a worker / owner, a community member must be employed for one year, be an employee in good standing, and pay a \$500 membership deposit. Currently about half of our community members are worker/ owners. Maintaining the Retreat and Conference Center provides the livelihood for those of us who live here.

As each year passes, more and more people come to Breitenbush. A whole series of books could be written about our adventures, explorations and lessons learned in this grand experiment. Currently, the community ranges from 50 to 70 adults and children. We live rich, full lives here. There is an abundance of interesting people, new ideas, healing practices, friendships, challenges, Spirit and nature.

The Breitenbush Credo

We of the Breitenbush Community dedicate ourselves to living mindfully in the spirit of love, unity, honesty and service.

We see ourselves as guardians of Breitenbush Hot Springs, safeguarding the earth and healing water, assuring their continued availability to all beings who respect them. Our primary service is to provide a healing retreat and conference center which promotes holistic health, spiritual growth, and facilitates the gathering of people in celebration of the experience of life. Our Community is supported by the services we provide.

We are committed to the health and well-being of ourselves and our families, to live, work, play and grow together harmoniously. We mutually support and respect each person's dignity, and awaken to the Spirit within each of us which acknowledges that we are all One.

The Community is committed to a lifestyle conducive to holistic child-rearing and personal growth. Our precepts for self growth include: Personal accountability, honest communication, awareness of our actions and the quality of their results, directing our energies to the positive, expressing appreciation for what others do, correcting what is clearly not working for the community or for us as individuals, assuming the responsibility for creating and sharing abundance, and choosing

and rechoosing to be together. We structure our lives such that we can experience daily the rewards of success, peacefulness and joy.

It is our hope that the thriving community which we create will be an inspiration to others in their exploration of lifestyle and community. We also extend ourselves to the greater society in which we live, the world community, and commit ourselves to being socially, spiritually, politically and environmentally responsible.