



Provincetown Independent Science & Environment Reporter

The *Provincetown Independent*, an award-winning newspaper in one of the most ecologically and culturally complex places in the United States, seeks a science and environment reporter who shares our commitment to independent local journalism.

The *Independent* covers four towns at the tip of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Provincetown, Truro, Wellfleet, and Eastham occupy a fragile environment, much of it protected as part of the Cape Cod National Seashore, and have a combined year-round population of about 15,000, which swells to more than 100,000 in summer. This presents challenges to local and regional governments, to the local economy and to community life. At the same time, this is a place that for generations has attracted creative people who contribute to these communities' continuous renewal.

We publish stories for and about the people who live and work here and those who love this place from afar. We believe that high-quality local journalism can bring people closer to their neighbors and to this outermost community.

A science background is important to your succeeding at this job. It will include delving into climate and other kinds of scientific research, working with data, exploring nature, and developing sources who are often accomplished scientists themselves.

Formal journalism experience is not required to succeed at this job, but you do need to be an excellent writer. You also need enthusiasm for talking with people about what motivates them, curiosity and research skills, and an eye for detail as well as an understanding of systems — government, societal, ecological — and how they work and fail. You need to be organized and able to perform under pressure.

Note: this job cannot be done remotely. While much work can be done away from the office, the right candidate must be or become part of the local community, including living within easy commuting distance of Provincetown.

What you'll do:

- Report, research, write, and, under the guidance of staff editors, revise news and feature articles for the newspaper. Full-time staff reporters are expected to produce two to four publishable pieces each week.
- Develop expertise in complex community issues involving town and regional policymaking, health care, the environment, the national park (from its scientific work to its policies, leadership, and relationship to our towns) and the natural world.
- Participate in editorial staff meetings and pitch ideas for stories in all departments of the newspaper.
- Work 40 hours a week, on a schedule that might vary and will occasionally require nights and/or weekends.
- Collaborate with other reporters as needed.
- Assist editors with their work as needed.

What we provide:

- The starting salary is \$45,000 per year, with a health insurance plan (we pay 60% of the premium); two weeks paid vacation per year to start; up to 5 paid sick days and 5 paid personal days per year.
- Assistance in finding affordable housing on the Outer Cape including, for those who qualify, subsidized rent through our nonprofit partner, the Local Journalism Project.
- The chance to work with great editors and colleagues, with many opportunities for mentorship, attendance at journalism workshops and conferences, and other forms of professional development.
- A lively, creative, and collaborative workplace culture in our newsroom in the center of Provincetown with its history of attracting illustrious writers, artists, scientists, entertainers, and journalists.

To apply:

Send a letter describing what specifically excites you about working at the *Independent*, how you've delved into subjects of interest in the past, what experience you would bring, and how you would approach the job to our Publisher, Teresa Parker:

teresa@provincetownindependent.org

Press coverage of the *Independent*:

[*The American Prospect*](#)

[*Media Nation*](#)

[*The Atlantic*](#)

[*The Boston Globe*](#)

[*Cape Cod Times*](#)

[WCAI-FM \(National Public Radio for Cape Cod and the Islands\)](#)

[WOMR-FM Community Radio \("The Lowdown"\)](#)