

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK (TN, NC)



Andrew Mentrup grew up in the suburbs of Cincinnati, Ohio. In his youth, his family toured around to national parks across the nation. In 2010, his family set off on their largest trip to date: a cross country road trip that visited many parks, including Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone, and Glacier National Park. It was on this trip that he developed a passion for the park service and the land and history they preserve. In high school, Andrew always found the time to volunteer at schools, churches, and parks around his hometown to help those in need, and to help preserve the beauty of these areas. During his college tenure at The University of Cincinnati and The University of New Mexico, Andrew studied Chemistry, Biochemistry, as

well as Geology. In 2018, Andrew became a Student Conservation Association intern at the Colonial National Historic Park on Jamestown Island. There he produced and delivered his own interpretation program that was based upon the natural and human history of the park. In addition to his program, Andrew also assisted in creating an Earth Science Day program for middle school students in the park based upon water quality in swamps and marshes. Andrew has always been a self-driven leader who always puts the needs of others before his own. He is a positive influence on those around him, and is always willing to lend a hand to someone in need.