



CONSERVATION SPECIALIST

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

LOCATION: Washington Conservation District (WCD) – Oakdale, MN

CLASSIFICATION: Senior Technician or Specialist, Starting DOQ

SALARY RANGE: \$50,000-\$79,000, Starting DOQ

STATUS: Exempt, full-time position with benefits.

HOURS/DAYS: Normal business hours, Monday - Friday. May require evening and weekend meetings. Flex time and compressed work schedule available.

Washington Conservation District is accepting applications for a Conservation Senior Technician/Specialist to focus on conservation in rural Washington County. This position is responsible for providing technical expertise for agricultural and rural land, surface-water, and groundwater protection efforts. The person selected for this position must balance field work, interagency coordination, positive public interaction, and detailed documentation.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE (but not limited to):

1. Promoting rural land and water conservation programs.
2. Prioritizing, designing, and overseeing installation of agricultural and rural BMPs.
3. Supporting shoreline BMP design and implementation.
4. Conducting educational presentations and providing landowner outreach.
5. Managing project budgets and reporting to state agencies.
6. Preparing grant applications, technical reports, management plans, and articles.
7. Other duties as assigned and in accordance with an annual workplan.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor degree in natural resources, soil science, botany, biology, ecology, ag engineering, or related field and three (3) years of experience as a professional in the environmental field. Documented BMP surveying, design and construction-oversight experience, including agricultural BMPs and landscape restoration. Applicant must be a highly motivated professional interested in developing a strong working relationship with landowners. Proven technical skills, successful project management experience, and attention to detail are critical. Knowledge of and experience with NRCS federal farm programs and BWSR grant and reporting procedures. Qualified applicants will be self-motivated, able to show a commitment to high quality work, and complete projects on schedule while dealing with diverse audiences. Excellent communication, writing, presentation, computer and GIS skills are needed.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: More than five years of professional experience. An advanced degree in a directly related field. Direct farming experience. Forestry knowledge and experience. Shoreline restoration experience. Water quality modelling.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work involves 50-60% outdoor work – outdoor work is more frequent during the growing season. Physical activities include walking on irregular terrain, frequent position changes, and lifting, pushing, and pulling up to 50 pounds regularly (and more occasionally). Exposures include heat, wet, cold, insects, and other aspects of field work in Minnesota. Indoor work is typical for a modern, professional office.

SELECTION TECHNIQUE: Finalists for the interview process will be determined after initial screening and assessment of relevant qualifications and experience. Applicant(s) selected for the interview process will be contacted directly by the District Manager.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Submit a cover letter, resume, and three references via email to jriggs@mnwcd.org by **4:00 p.m., Friday July 8, 2016.**

CONDITIONS OF ANNOUNCEMENT: Washington Conservation District reserves the right to change or withdraw this announcement without notification at any time.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER