

Cannon River Watershed Partnership
Agriculture Program Coordinator
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT and POSITION DESCRIPTION

February 13, 2014

The Cannon River Watershed Partnership (CRWP) is a non-profit organization working to engage people in protecting and improving the water quality and natural systems of the Cannon River watershed. The Cannon River watershed is a six-county, 1462 square mile area located south of the Twin Cities in Southeast Minnesota. Our office is located at 400 Washington St., Northfield, MN 55057. To learn more about CRWP visit our website at www.crowp.net.

Position Available:

The primary focus of this position will be to work with farmers and local partners to increase conservation efforts and knowledge sharing to help farmers have productive farms and clean water.

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Determining priority conservation lands (areas to focus efforts).
- Meet with farmers and landowners to assist with assessing conservation needs and facilitating enrollment in Farm Bill and state conservation programs.
- Convene and facilitate watershed councils
- Host demonstration field days, educational events, and facilitate research projects that will increase the knowledge of farmers, landowners and local partners.
- Coordinate Women Landowner's group.
- Carry out research/feasibility study regarding market based approaches to increasing cover crops on canning crop land.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Build relationships with those who advise and provide supplies to farmers.
- Compile data and reports for granting agencies.
- Assist with grant writing.
- Attend applicable meetings and conferences to present information and represent CRWP.
- Write project updates and articles for the CRWP newsletter, website and local media as needed.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

- Education: Bachelor's degree in environmental, biological, earth, agronomy or related field with at least 3 years relevant work experience.
- Experience developing conservation plans.

- Well versed in USDA Farm Bill programs especially the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
- Knowledge/experience in the use of ArcGIS for land use planning.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills; capable of working effectively with the public, private and government sector.
- Ability to “sell” conservation practices.
- Conflict management skills.
- Self motivated and results driven.

WORKING REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability and willingness to travel to meet with farmers.
- Ability and willingness to attend evening and weekend meetings.
- A valid MN Driver’s License and access to a vehicle.

Hours of Work: This position will either be a full-time (exempt) position or may be split into two half-time (0.5 FTE) positions depending on the candidate pool.

CRWP’s normal business hours are 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. Due to the need to meet with individuals and host meetings as part of this position, hours may extend beyond these times and candidate needs to have flexibility with scheduling.

Compensation: Based on experience. CRWP offers vacation and sick pay, a Simple IRA as well, and a limited cafeteria plan.

Application: Send cover letter, resume and transcript to Beth Kallestad at beth@crwp.net by February 28, 2014. Anticipated start date will be April 1, 2014 or sooner.