



Agricultural Outreach Specialist

Location: Asbury, Warren County, NJ

Classification: Full-time (37.5 hours/week)

The North Jersey RC&D is a nonprofit organization that seeks a positive, detail-oriented and collaborative candidate to join its team. The Agricultural Outreach Specialist will work closely with the Associate Director and Agricultural Specialist in promoting conservation and implementing agricultural best management practices in the region.

This position includes both field and office support as the individual will be involved in the planning and implementation of projects, as well as, watershed management plans.

Responsibilities:

- Work directly with landowners and agricultural producers to identify, plan and implement conservation practices that support sustainable agriculture;
- Communicate effectively on how to conserve soil, improve water quality, manage nutrients, and protect and improve wildlife habitat;
- Develop and maintain good working relationships with agricultural producers;
- Support phases of grant management, including proposal preparation and project reporting;
- Communicate effectively via press releases, newsletter articles, website, social media and via the development of “success stories” for grantors;
- Explain USDA-NRCS and other conservation programs to landowners;
- Assist in developing conservation contracts with landowners;
- Participate in conservation field tours and represent NJRC&D at various outreach events.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree in soil conservation, agricultural or natural resource discipline, such as horticulture, agronomy, soil science, forestry, agricultural education, or environmental science/engineering;
- 2+ years of relevant work experience; preferably seeking an individual with in-field experience and/or farming background;
- Possess a practical knowledge of the methods and techniques of soil, water and environmental conservation as they relate to agricultural operations, including knowledge of Ag BMP practices such as cover crop, nutrient management, soil erosion control, manure management and riparian buffers;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, and strong interpersonal skills;

- Excellent computer skills – Microsoft Office Suite, ArcGIS experience a plus;
- Grant writing experience and experience updating websites and social media a plus;
- A valid driver's license is required.

An ideal candidate is someone who:

- Demonstrates initiative and has a positive attitude;
- Has a willingness to bring up new ideas and be a champion for conservation;
- Exhibits strong professionalism and work ethic;
- Is an organized self-starter, able to work independently in executing responsibilities while also collaborating with others.

Terms of employment:

- Full-time position, competitive benefits package available;
- Pay based on qualifications and experience, please provide salary requirements;
- Position based on multi-year grant funding;
- Position located in Asbury, NJ at the River Resource Center. We are co-located with the Musconetcong Watershed Association.

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit a resume and cover letter outlining your interest, along with brief writing sample and list of references, to:

Laura Tessieri, Associate Director

North Jersey RC&D

10 Maple Avenue, PO Box 117, Asbury, NJ 08802; or

by email to ltessieri@northjerseyrcd.org

We strongly encourage all qualified professionals to apply. The North Jersey RC&D is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, age, national origin, ethnic background, disability or any other characteristic protected by law.

The North Jersey RC&D is a nonprofit organization initiated in 1962 to help people care for and protect their natural resources to improve an area's economy, environment and living standards. We work within Hunterdon, Warren, Morris, Somerset, Sussex and Union counties. Our mission is to work towards the sustainable use and protection of natural and human resources through innovation, education and partnerships. Visit us on the web: www.northjerseyrcd.org