

Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Environmental Outreach Internship – Fall 2020



This fall internship position will support the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's outreach and engagement programs. Through these efforts, we reach thousands of people and have a deep impact on the Fairfax County community. The intern will support a variety of events and programs through office preparation and coordination in advance, staffing during the event, and follow-up afterwards. Programs include:

- Outreach Events or Festivals (evening or weekend)
- Volunteer Stream Monitoring
- Storm Drain Marking and Education
- Annual Native Seedling Sale
- Conservation Assistance Program
- K-12 In-person or Virtual Student Programming
- Envirothon Competition Trainings
- Potentially a Potomac Watershed Roundtable, and/or Rain Barrel Workshop

In addition, the intern will support the development of outreach and informational material for delivery through social media (Facebook and Instagram), webinars, and printed material. Other duties that support NVSWCD's mission may be assigned as necessary and build upon the strengths and interests of the individual. NVSWCD's interns work in a professional setting and acquire practical experience in data collection and management, as well as the development of programmatic guidance, execution of education and engagement programs, and informational or promotional materials for various audiences.

The intern should be prepared to participate in events that may take place in a wide range of temperatures and weather conditions. Interns will report to NVSWCD's Conservation Education Specialist and closely coordinate efforts with other NVSWCD staff.

Skills and Abilities:

- Strong writing and speaking skills.
- Excellent attention to detail and organizational abilities.
- Professionalism and patience with partners, public, and students.
- Able to work independently; trustworthy and assumes responsibility easily.
- Performs well on a team, excellent relationship with colleagues and supervisors.
- Learns quickly, not afraid to troubleshoot independently and ask questions.
- Self-starter, able to meet deadlines.
- Desired: Experience with outreach efforts, social media and web editing software.

The intern must display professionalism, patience, attention to detail, a willingness to learn and a good sense of humor. Evening and weekend work may be required.

Education and Experience:

- Enrollment in or graduate of a four-year accredited college or university with a degree in natural resources, environmental planning, environmental science, sustainability, or related area;
- A conservation ethos and/or an understanding and appreciation of environmental and conservation matters.

Physical Requirements:

Ability to spend extended periods of time standing, walking, and ability to traverse rough and uneven terrain. Must be able to work in varying weather conditions. Must be physically able to lift 15 pounds.

Conditions for Employment:

Must pass a criminal background check, a check of the Child Protective Services Registry, and a driver's licence check to the satisfaction of the employer. Use of a personal vehicle required; mileage will be reimbursed at current IRS rate.

Term & Compensation

September 8, 2020 – December 18, 2020; 15 weeks, 20 hours/week, \$15/hr

The intern will be paid bi-weekly with staff payroll. Taxes will be withheld. This is a limited-term position that does not include benefits.

Office Location

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 905, Fairfax, VA 22035

Telework privileges may be granted during this time. Remote work locations must include access to a phone, computer, internet, and printer. Compensation for use of a personal phone, computing equipment, and internet service is not provided.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should email their resume, accompanied by a cover letter and contact information for two references to conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov by Friday, August 14, 2020.

About NVSWCD

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Its boundaries are the same as those of Fairfax County, home to nearly one million people. Founded in 1945 by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources, NVSWCD is now one of 47 conservation districts in Virginia and approximately 3,000 nationwide. The agency is governed by a five-member Board of Directors who employ seven staff to carry out the organization's technical and educational programs.

The agency's goal is to promote clean streams and protected natural resources. We achieve this through effective leadership, technical assistance and outreach programs in collaboration with government, industry, and the public.

NVSWCD is not a regulatory agency. Instead, the agency provides conservation information, technical services, educational programs and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution and stream health. We also connect residents with environmental initiatives and opportunities through our Watershed Calendar and other online listserves and our seasonal newsletter, Conservation Currents.

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Its programs, activities and employment opportunities are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or political affiliation.

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12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 905, Fairfax, VA 22035
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation