



Natural Resources Technician Position Description

Reports To: Operations Supervisor and Executive Director
Department: Conservation
FLSA: Non-Exempt

Revision Date: March 2021

General Summary

This position is a full time/permanent position. Employee works 40 hours per week and receives benefits. Vehicles for transportation on the job are provided as well as tools, personal protective equipment, and a uniform allowance. This position is based out of the Louisa County Conservation Maintenance Shop, in Wapello, Iowa.

Primary responsibilities include all aspects of natural resources management, development and maintenance of Louisa County Conservation parks and wildlife areas. Shares the workload with the Operations Supervisor and 2-3 part-time, seasonal conservation aides. Also works with other staff including the Director, Office Manager and Naturalists.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The following duties are normal for this position, but other duties may be required, requested, or assigned by the Director as needed.

- Natural Resources and Habitat Management
 - Assist in developing, planning, and executing management plans.
 - Assist and promote prescribed fire as a management tool for habitat improvement.
 - Assist in planting wildlife food plots in parks and wildlife areas.
 - Apply herbicides and pesticides as needed and assist in keeping records on applications.
- Maintenance of Buildings, Parks, and Wildlife Areas
 - Assist with mowing, string trimming and weeding.
 - Trail maintenance including building, mowing, erosion control, and trimming.
 - Conduct general maintenance of buildings and equipment that could include electrical, plumbing, carpentry, welding, mechanical and other skills.
 - Assist with development of areas and capital improvement projects.
 - Maintain safety by correcting all potentially hazardous conditions.
 - Perform routine & preventative maintenance on equipment and facilities.
- Park Patrol duties
 - Patrol parks and campgrounds, collect fees, and maintain parks & campgrounds.
 - Clean and stock restrooms and gather trash,
 - Required to work some nights, weekends, and holidays.
 - General enforcement of park rules and regulations.
- Administrative:
 - Assist in keeping records of all maintenance, MSDS sheets, and safety inspections.
 - Assist in grant writing and budgeting.
 - Assist in proper procurement procedures for competitive bids.
 - Assist with supervising seasonal maintenance employees as needed.
 - Oversee equipment rental and follow rental procedures.
- Other:
 - Assist other employees as directed.
 - There is a potential to assist with Environmental Education programs and the Langwood High Ropes Course.
 - Attend training workshops, safety trainings and other continuing education as requested.

- Work to strengthen relationships and partnerships with other like-minded agencies including the local Iowa DNR, US Fish & Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation and County Conservation Boards.

Entry Level Requirements

Graduation from a two or four-year college or university with a degree in a related field of natural resources or physical science, education or park and recreation management.

- Experience in the natural resource field and/or park management desirable with knowledge of plants, wildlife, ecosystems, and wildlife habitat management.
- Experience or training in the use and maintenance of a variety of equipment required such as tractors, skid steer, UTV, chain saws and prescribed fire engines and equipment.
- Valid motor vehicle operator's license required. Must have or be willing/able to obtain a Certified Driver's License Class A (CDL) within 1-year.
- Must possess or be able to acquire appropriate certification for applying pesticides (1A & 5) and herbicides. Employee must obtain certification within 1-year.
- Must be or become certified for Prescribed Fire by taking the federal wildland fire training courses.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Physical Demands

- Must be able to walk over a variety of landscapes and through steep or rough terrain.
- Ability to use hands to manipulate hand tools, such as cordless drills, chain saws, power tools, shovels, rakes, shovels, and similar tools.
- Operate vehicles and machinery including trucks, tractors, planters, various types of mowers, UTV's, skid steer and other vehicles/equipment on a regular basis.
- Occasional duties in regulatory enforcement, park operations and related activities that may including working with members of the public who are intoxicated or unruly.
- Ability to lift up to 50 pounds, bend, carry equipment and climb ladders.
- The arduous physical fitness test for prescribed fire requires carrying 45 pounds for 3-miles in under 45 minutes. The moderate test requires carrying 25 pounds for 2-miles in under 30 minutes.

Cognitive Demands

- Must be able to clearly to communicate with the public.
- Proficient in basic mathematics, writing and speaking skills.
- Advanced knowledge of natural resources management and best practices.
- Advanced knowledge of fish, wildlife, habitat needs and ecosystems.
- General knowledge of plumbing, carpentry, repair, electricity, welding, mechanical and related trades.
- Ability to calibrate, mix and apply chemicals.
- Utilization of various technical resource materials, manuals, etc.

Environmental Adaptability

- Primarily work outdoors throughout the year (75% of the time).
- Potential for contact with stinging insects, poison ivy, and other allergens is high.
- Job requires traversing rough or steep terrain daily.
- Potential for personal injury due to occupational/environmental hazards is low to moderate.

Pre-Employment screening

- Offers of employment are pending successful completion of the pre-employment screening and background checks.

Employee

Date

Louisa County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Louisa County Conservation does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic as required by law, in any of its activities or operations. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the county will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities. Prospective employees and incumbents are encouraged to discuss potential accommodations.