

Application Deadline: February 2025 (Interviews Feb. 12, 14, or 17)

Anticipated Start Date: May 1, 2025

Overview and Job Duties:

One full time internship position is available for a qualified individual to work for Limestone Bluffs Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) in conjunction with a district forester in a joint capacity to promote healthy forest management. Funding for this position is currently secured for 2025 alongside the District Forester. The successful applicant will outreach to private landowners and help improve their woodlands for wildlife, recreation, wood products, and soil and water quality, and assist in explaining and applying for federal and state funding programs. Depending on funding, position could be continued remotely into the school year.

The successful applicant will serve as an employee of Limestone Bluffs RC&D and receive supervision and daily instructions by the district forestry staff. Work priorities will be determined by the local DNR District Forester in conjunction with the Limestone Bluffs RC&D Executive Director Coordinator and the National Association of Conservation District agreement funding the position. Training and support will be provided by the District Forester and Limestone Bluffs RC&D Executive Director. Preference to candidates who have completed GIS class.

Duties will include:

- Successful applicant will work alongside District Forester, and perform some tasks independently over time with experience.
- Conduct outreach activities to promote forest management objectives within the designated working area; write project plans and data entry into Arc Map.
- Work with private landowners to provide technical assistance for managing their properties, including conducting site visits and development of forest management plans.
- Develop Forest Management Plans and prescribed burning plans that meet NRCS standards and program requirements.
- Work with private landowners to provide information and assistance with available conservation programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) and other federal, state, and local programs.
- Duties will also include contract development and coordination, site assessment and monitoring, and regular tracking and reporting of accomplishments.
- Attendance at relevant DNR and NRCS meetings and/or trainings will also be required.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Superior communication (written and oral) skills. Must be comfortable both speaking in groups and in engaging landowners on a one-to-one basis.
- Willingness to be a vocal advocate for young forests and active forest management to landowners and natural resource professionals.
- Ability to work independently.
- Knowledge of basic forest ecology and dynamics, especially related to the forest

communities of Iowa.

- Knowledge of basic principles of wildlife management.
- Knowledge of relevant conservation programs, including Federal Farm Bill programs (CRP, EQIP and CSP), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Partners for Fish & Wildlife program, and other applicable federal, state, and local conservation programs.
- Ability to work long hours in the field and under adverse weather conditions.
- Familiarity with MS Word, MS Excel and Arc Map.
- Valid driver's license required with an acceptable driving record.

Equipment requirements:

- Laptop computer (RC&D will purchase 1 year GIS account)
- District Forester will provide Field notebook; Field Forestry Manual; office supplies

Qualifications:

Minimum – Currently enrolled in Forestry or closely related field from an accredited academic institution. Preference will be given to candidates who have experience related to forest and/or forest wildlife management.

Compensation:

This salaried position pays \$20/hour (\$20.50/hour equivalent). This position is not eligible for vacation pay, sick leave, health or disability benefits. WMI will withhold taxes including social security.

Location:

Anamosa, IA (District covers Jones, Jackson, Cedar, Clinton and Scott Counties)

For more information, contact:

Limestone Bluffs RC&D: office@limestonebluffsrcd.org

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