Now Hiring: Operations Assistant

Work at an innovative ecosystem restoration company that serves landowners throughout Iowa.

Company Information
Prudenterra’s mission is to empower landowners to strategically restore thriving, profitable perennials and maintain them for generations.

- 60% of our work is **prairie management**—mowing, seeding, spraying, and burning.
- 30% is **forest management**—thinning, planting, and timber sale administration.
- 5% is consulting services—**interpreting and evaluating ecosystems** for landowners and providing recommendations to achieve their goals and objectives.
- 5% is **innovative land management installations**—streambank restorations, wetland reconstruction, and swales for tree crop orchards or silvopasture.

Prudenterra is based out of Nevada, Iowa, and is owned by forester Luke Gran. The management team includes one full-time Project Manager and one full-time Operations Coordinator. Part-time operations crew members also assist in implementing and maintaining projects.

Operations Assistant
The position is 0.5 FTE (full-time equivalent). It may be filled by multiple part-time employees. Work must be completed in one or two full days during the regular work week Monday through Friday. Occasional Saturday workdays may be available as well. It offers a semi-flexible schedule and an enjoyable and rewarding work environment. Reports to Project Manager, and starts as soon as their schedule allows.

Job Requirements
- **Operating Equipment:**
  - Must have some experience operating chainsaws and be willing to hone skills and safety practices.
- **Working:**
  - Able to conduct physically demanding work, crouch over, and lift up to 50 pounds.
  - Work outside in seasonally variable conditions, and wear appropriate protective clothing.
Driving:
- Hold a valid driver’s license, and have a good driving record.
- Able to commute in own vehicle to Prudenterra headquarters near Nevada, Iowa or directly to our client's land.

Duties and Responsibilities
- **Conduct projects** as described in estimates which includes:
  - **Prescribed burns:** Burn grasslands and woodlands safely with prescribed fire techniques (backfire, flank fire, wet line).
  - **Tree planting:** Place container-grown and bare-root nursery stock trees and shrubs into the earth at the proper depth, spacing, and diversity by hand and with the aid of a machine planter.
  - **Chainsaw operation:** Perform woodland or prairie management as marked by forester.
  - **Herbicide application:** Mix and apply herbicides safely around tree/shrub seedlings, on cut stumps and on trunk girdles with backpack sprayer or handheld spray bottle. Prepare larger sites with broadcast spray of herbicide with a small boom sprayer.

Skills Required
- **Work well with others:** Effective and direct communicator. Welcoming and friendly to clients, and a good team member. Able to communicate via text, and phone.
- **Reliable:** Punctual, dependable, organized. Highly motivated and self-directed, whether working independently or collaboratively.
- **Mindful of Equipment and Safety:** Treats equipment with appropriate care and caution to ensure that it will be long-lasting. Aware of surroundings at all times to ensure the safety of all crew members.

Other Useful Skills
- **Botanical Identification:** Learn to identify common species by bark and buds. Common name by genus is sufficient—i.e. hickory, oak.
- **Equipment Maintenance:** Clean, maintain, and repair small tools and equipment such as small engine chainsaws, pole saws, and weed trimmers of various makes and models (Stihl 192/193, 261MC, 362, etc.).

Useful Certifications
- **Pesticide Application:** Iowa Commercial Certified Pesticide Applicators’ License Core Manual as well as Forest Pest Add-on, Ornamental & Turf Add-on.
- **Prescribed Fire:** National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) S130 Fire Training Course.
Compensation
Starting hourly pay rate of $13.00 - $14.00 per hour. After 90-day training period, the employee has the potential to earn up to $15.00 per hour depending on quality of work, and getting credentials for herbicide and wildland fire. Track and report hours worked to Project Manager through writing and submission of weekly timesheets.

Mileage
Most travel to job sites is conducted in Prudenterra vehicles, but in cases when employees must drive a personal vehicle from Prudenterra headquarters to a job site, mileage is reimbursed.

Benefits
Workers‘ Compensation Insurance is provided in the event of a work-related injury or accident.

Start Date
September, 2023

To Apply
Submit a cover letter and resume with three professional references to Luke Gran, Owner at luke@prudenterra.com. Open until filled.
Short Description

Now Hiring: Operations Assistant

Work at an innovative ecosystem restoration company that serves landowners throughout Iowa. Prudenterra’s mission is to empower landowners to strategically restore thriving, profitable perennials and maintain them for generations.

Be a part of the crew doing the work on the ground, operate equipment, and follow directions to conduct ecosystem management projects. Conduct ecosystem restoration for landowners throughout Iowa--prescribed burns, forest stand improvement, tree and shrub planting and more.

Skills needed include chainsaw experience, ability to gain certifications to conduct prescribed burns and apply herbicide, and botanical identification--can identify tree genus based on bark and buds. Must be able to maintain and repair equipment, or have basic skills to be able to learn to do so on the job.

Also must have excellent communication skills, be dependable, be able to work cooperatively as part of a team, and be able to conduct projects independently in seasonally variable weather conditions.

The position is seasonally variable, 8-20 hours per week. It offers a semi-flexible schedule. Compensation of up to $15.00 per hour. Reports to Project Manager.

To apply, submit a cover letter and resume with three professional references to Luke Gran, Owner, at luke@prudenterra.com. Open until filled. Preferred start date in early September.

Full details at https://www.prudenterra.com/careers/.

Overtime pay is offered for weeks when work is performed in excess of 40 hours, and days worked in excess of 10 hours in a 24-hour period.
Cutting bush honeysuckle with a medium-sized chainsaw.

Applying herbicide to cut stem tissues of bush honeysuckle.
 Suppressing a creeping fire in a mowed firebreak with a flapper hand tool.

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Want to be a part of our growing team in another capacity? Drop us a line and let us know what you are passionate about!

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