Job Opportunity—Environmental Monitoring Field Technicians (5 positions available)

Position: The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is seeking Environmental Monitoring Field Technicians with the Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Section to assist with water quality and biological sampling. The positions are based in Des Moines, IA, with travel statewide. 5 positions are available.

Appointment: The start date is somewhat flexible, but is expected to May 13, 2024 and continue through the end of August 2024, potentially to early October.

Job Description: Technicians will have the opportunity to work in several of the DNR WMAS stream, lake, shallow lake, wetland, fish kill follow-up, and beach monitoring programs. Duties include:

- Field work preparation, including calibration and maintenance of field equipment
- Travel to monitoring sites across Iowa (solo and as a team)
- Identify, measure, collect, and record various types of biological, chemical, and physical data
- Coordinate daily delivery of water samples to contract laboratories
- Data entry
- Process invertebrate samples
- Digitize collected field data sheets
- Complete additional tasks as assigned

Each position is slated for roughly 40 hours per week, but field days may extend beyond 8 hours per day and work schedules may fluctuate throughout the season. Final schedules will be coordinated upon selection and may involve extensive travel and long hours in the field. Work schedule may periodically involve overnight travel. Lodging costs and meal expenses for overnight stays while traveling for work will be reimbursed by the DNR. Pay range for the positions is $16-$18/hr.

Qualifications: Coursework in biology, fisheries, environmental sciences, or a related field is preferred. This position requires the ability to lift 50 pounds and perform outdoor physical labor in any type of weather and/or on rugged terrain. The candidate must have a valid driver’s license, have the ability to (or learn to) operate a motor vehicle with a trailer, be able to operate an outboard motorboat, have basic familiarity with various types of environmental sampling equipment, and use of basic hand tools. The candidate will follow all rules, policies and procedures of the DNR. The position requires regular attendance, ability to work into the evening when scheduled, or when called upon to do so. The position requires the ability to use Windows-based software at a moderate level (i.e., Word, Excel, and various equipment software).

Deadline for application: Jan 26, 2024
Interested applicants can mail or email cover letter (with available start and end dates), resume, and references to:
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The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is an EEO/AA Employer.