

The Nature Conservancy

POSITION PROFILE

Applied Agricultural Scientist Maryland/DC Chapter



Protecting nature. Preserving life.

The Nature Conservancy is the leading conservation organization working to make a positive impact around the world in 79 countries and territories, all 50 United States, and your backyard. Founded in 1951, our mission is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. One of our core values is our commitment to a globally diverse and culturally competent workforce. Visit www.nature.org/aboutus to learn more.

Join our Chesapeake Agriculture Team! Our work is focused on improving water quality and building climate resiliency in a way that supports a thriving agricultural community in the Chesapeake Bay. This position will be part of the Maryland/DC Chapter and will support projects and colleagues in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia.

As a key member of the Chesapeake Agriculture Team, your position will ensure that our projects to improve water quality, enhance habitat, and build resiliency to and mitigate impacts of climate change in agricultural landscapes of the Chesapeake Bay region apply the best available science and integrate learning from other efforts so that we accelerate conservation outcomes. Using your experience in agricultural systems, you will work with partners to evaluate science needs, develop projects, and implement conservation practices. You will also apply your understanding of research and project management to develop monitoring and evaluation methods that enhance our efforts. As research needs are identified, you will develop collaborative projects to fill science gaps needed to increase implementation of conservation practices. Finally, you will work with colleagues and partners across the watershed and have the opportunity to learn from TNC colleagues across North America and around the world. Strong preference is for this position to be based in our Easton, Maryland office but we will consider other locations. Key responsibilities include:

Science Leadership: develops strategies that use the best available science to accelerate the adoption of local and regional climate-smart in-field and edge-of-field agricultural conservation practices which benefit communities, their economy, and nature. They apply expertise in agricultural systems including agronomy, nutrient management, and/or soil health to develop and advance multi-disciplinary projects with internal and external scientists and practitioners that increase nutrient use efficiency and resiliency to climate change. They provide leadership to project teams to ensure our projects are grounded in the best available science to accelerate progress toward our goals.

Partnership Building: develops effective partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, conservation groups, the agribusiness community, and other public and private organizations engaged in agricultural issues. They foster and grow private-public partnerships that have the potential to accelerate the implementation of practices in agricultural landscapes to achieve our conservation goals and support local farming communities. They support TNC's partnership with MidAtlantic 4R Nutrient Stewardship Association and local 4R Alliances to advance the mission of ensuring that every nutrient application on farms is consistent with the 4Rs – the right nutrient source, applied at the right rate, at the right time, in the right place.

Monitoring and Evaluation: develops monitoring and evaluation methods for projects and strategies as part of an adaptive management process to ensure that we are learning from our efforts and continue to improve and accelerate outcomes. They apply conservation by design (CBD2.0), TNC's adaptive learning framework, and support team members using this framework.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's Degree in science related field and 2 years of experience or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Expertise in row crop agricultural systems, including agronomy, nutrient management, soil health, and/or hydrology.
- Experience leading and working with cross functional teams.
- Experience synthesizing, interpreting and communicating scientific information.
- Experience preparing reports of findings.
- Record of peer reviewed publications in scientific journals or other scholarly achievements.
- Excellent communication skills with a wide range of people.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience and knowledge of rowcrop agricultural systems in the eastern U.S.
- Experience working with private sector agribusiness.
- Experience with conservation practices that improve water quality and mitigate climate change.
- Multi-language skills and multi-cultural or cross-cultural experience appreciated.
- Attention to detail.

In addition to offering competitive salaries, learn more about the [additional benefits](#) TNC has to offer.

If you are interested in working to save the planet, want to work in a collaborative environment, and like a great benefits package, please submit your cover letter and resume for position number **51020** by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time by March 13th, 2022. Please see the full position description and apply at www.nature.org/careers.

The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our commitment to diversity includes the recognition that our conservation mission is best advanced by the leadership and contributions of people of all genders with diverse backgrounds, beliefs and cultures. Recruiting and mentoring staff to create an inclusive organization that reflects our global character is a priority and we encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability status, sexual orientations, gender identities, military or veteran status or other status protected by law.