

Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District



Environmental Outreach Intern – Fall 2023

The Environmental Outreach Intern is a part-time, limited-term position that participates in and delivers programs and information to engage diverse audiences in the stewardship work of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD). The Environmental Outreach Intern will support the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's award-winning spring outreach programs. We reach thousands of people and have a deep impact on many youth and adults. The Environmental Outreach Intern will report to the Communication and Education Specialist and work closely with the Executive Director and other NVSWCD staff. This is an excellent opportunity for a student or early career environmental educator with a wide skillset to support local conservation efforts with local government, community partners, and Fairfax County residents on a supportive and experienced team.

Student Programs

- Assists with the Conservation Poster Contest including serving as a judge and sharing winners over social media.
- Participates in student training events and presentations for the Envirothon program, a natural resources competition for high school students.
- Assists with student field trips, presentations, and virtual programming.

Community Engagement

- Participates in Biological Stream Monitoring workshops by leading and assisting volunteer groups, managing program supplies, and obtaining the Virginia Save Our Streams Stream Monitoring Certification.
- Supports the Storm Drain Education and Labeling Program by attending labeling events, training volunteers, and managing program supplies.
- Participates in Rain Barrel Workshops and Composter Workshops.

Outreach Events

- Leads community outreach and tabling events.
- Supports the development of outreach and informational material for delivery through social media (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube), webinars, and printed material.
- Supports NVSWCD events and programs including our annual Native Seedling Sale, the Soil Morphology Course, Potomac Watershed Roundtable, Green Breakfast, outreach and education events, and others.

Skills and Abilities:

- Strong writing and speaking skills.
- Excellent attention to detail and organizational abilities.
- Professionalism with partners, public, and students.
- Able to work independently; trustworthy and assumes responsibility easily.
- Performs well on a team, excellent relationship with colleagues and supervisors.
- Learns quickly, not afraid to troubleshoot independently and ask questions.
- Self-starter, able to meet deadlines.
- Desired: Experience with outreach efforts, social media, web editing software.

The Environmental Outreach Intern should be comfortable traversing short distances, carrying supplies up to 20 lbs., and fieldwork may require travel across uneven terrain over longer distances. Must be able to work in varying weather conditions. Reasonable accommodation will be made available. A valid driver's license and clean driving record is required. Use of a personal or official vehicle may be required; mileage will be reimbursed at current IRS rate for personal vehicle use. The Environmental Outreach Intern must pass a criminal background check and a driver's license check to the satisfaction of the employer.

Terms & Compensation

August 28, 2023 – December 8, 2023; 15 weeks, 20 hours/week, \$18/hr

The Environmental Outreach Intern will be paid every other week with staff payroll. Taxes will be withheld. This is a limited-term position that does not include benefits.

Office Environment

The Environmental Outreach Intern must display professionalism, patience, attention to detail, a willingness to learn, and a good sense of humor. NVSWCD offers a flexible, hybrid working environment with two days in the office per week after the initial training period. The Environmental Outreach Intern is expected to attend in-person special events as needed. Our office is located at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 905, Fairfax, VA 22035.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should email their resume, accompanied by a cover letter and contact information for two references to conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov by Sunday, August 13, 2023.

About NVSWCD

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Its boundaries are the same as those of Fairfax County, home to nearly one million people. Founded in 1945 by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources, NVSWCD is now one of 47 conservation districts in Virginia and approximately 3,000 nationwide. The agency is governed by a five-member Board of Directors who employ thirteen staff to carry out the organization's technical and educational programs.

The agency's goal is to promote clean streams and protect natural resources. We achieve this through effective leadership, technical assistance, and outreach programs in collaboration with government, industry, and the public.

NVSWCD is not a regulatory agency. Instead, the agency provides conservation information, technical services, educational programs, and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution, and stream health. We also connect residents with environmental initiatives and opportunities through our *Watershed Calendar* newsletter.

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Its programs, activities and employment opportunities are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, sex, age, military status, pregnancy/childbirth or related medical conditions, national origin, political affiliation, gender identity and expression, or disability.

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12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 905, Fairfax, VA 22035
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation