

POSITION DESCRIPTION

CONFLUENCE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

The Confluence AmeriCorps program advances environmental equity through innovative partnerships with local organizations in the Portland metropolitan area. We offer life changing service opportunities that engage Members at the intersection of environmentalism and social justice while promoting individual leadership and development. This position is a dynamic combination of serving with a Project Partner on a dedicated project (80%) and engaging in professional and leadership development opportunities, alongside a 22 Member cohort (20%).

DATES OF SERVICE

September 5, 2018 – July 26, 2019 (11 months – 1700 hours)

PROJECT PARTNER

Johnson Creek Watershed Council

www.jcwc.org



POSITION TITLE

Outreach and Riparian Specialist

POSITION SUMMARY

This position is a partnership between Confluence Environmental Center, AmeriCorps Program and the Johnson Creek Watershed Council. The Outreach and Riparian Specialist will build on the successes of previous AmeriCorps Members in the following ways:

- Restoration Projects: (35%)
 - Design, implement, and maintain riparian restoration projects along Johnson Creek and tributaries under the supervision of the JCWC Riparian Program Manager.
 - Conduct outreach and recruitment to creekside landowners to increase restoration efforts.
 - Support workforce development and volunteer training efforts.
- Outreach Projects: (35%)
 - Build partnerships with culturally specific organizations and underrepresented community groups.
 - Assist with coordination of volunteer restoration events and educational activities with school groups
 - Create and distribute outreach materials for upcoming events
 - Assist with volunteer recruitment, communication, and volunteer database tracking.
- Community Science: (10%)
 - Assist with wildlife survey projects and help plan and host educational community events
- Confluence Member Development: (20%)
 - Participate in Confluence led leadership development activities which include: Leadership Development Program, Change Agent Project, team meetings, National Service events and other self-directed development opportunities.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (to include, but not limited to):

- Serve with the JCWC Volunteer Coordinator to plan, recruit for, and coordinate volunteer planting and maintenance events at sites identified for volunteer stewardship, occasionally in the evenings or on weekends. This will include building partnerships with culturally specific organizations and underrepresented communities.
- Design, implement, and maintain riparian reforestation projects along Johnson Creek and tributaries, collaborating with partners (Portland Parks and Recreation, City of Gresham, Wisdom of the Elders, AmeriCorps NCCC) as

appropriate; conduct initial site assessments and develop planting, monitoring, and weed management plans; order plants and supplies; track and report results and expenditures. Conduct project monitoring and reporting at completed and ongoing restoration projects – e.g. photomonitoring, vegetation cover transects, and update project descriptions on the Conservation Registry, etc.

- Conduct outreach and recruit private landowners for restoration projects and be a technical resource and offer trainings for landowners with a goal of increasing landowner participation in long-term maintenance. This could include organizing landowner tours / restoration showcases on private property to encourage peer-to-peer sharing – occasionally in the evenings or on weekends.
- Manage the tool room, help maintain a clean office, attend meetings, respond to emails, etc.
- Complete and submit all necessary paperwork and reports in a timely manner; abide by program policies; attend and complete all training and service requirements.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Desire to serve with diverse groups of people to promote environmental stewardship and an ethic of service.
- Self-motivated with high standards, and a good written and verbal communicator.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Background (education or specific experience) in natural resource management, botany, river restoration, or a related field.
- Familiarity with Johnson Creek Watershed flora (native and invasive) and Pacific Northwest restoration strategies and species.
- Experience conducting educational activities with youth
- Experience with managing multiple projects/tasks; ability to prioritize, meet multiple deadlines
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds, and to walk uneven terrain through adverse conditions.
- Computer Proficiency: Microsoft Office Suite, Gmail, photo downloading, basic file organization
- Willingness/openness to learn about and discuss racial equity and social justice issues.
- Ability to serve as part of a diverse team.
- Regular and reliable attendance and dependability.
- AmeriCorps Members must be: 18 years of age or older; U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident; able to commit to the full term of service; able to successfully pass a fingerprint criminal history background check.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience designing, installing, and maintaining riparian restoration projects.
- Experience managing volunteers, youth work-crews, and/or contractors
- Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Chinese, or other language proficiency.
- Familiarity with low-income communities and/or communities of color.
- Digital mapping experience, ideally in ArcGIS
- Database management

MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE

- \$13,732 living allowance paid over the 11-month term of service (approx. \$1,245 monthly, before taxes).
- \$5,920 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)
- Loan Forbearance
- Health Care Insurance
- Child Care Reimbursement
- \$100 Training Fund
- Professional Leadership Certificate, Trainings and Networking opportunities.
- May be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

PROJECT LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- 4033 SE Woodstock Blvd, Portland, OR 97202
- Access to Council vehicles for Council-related activity.
- Eligible for mileage reimbursement from the Council for use of Member's personal vehicle, as agreed upon by

Council staff.

- Council office is located within short walking distance of bus lines and light rail, and not far from the Springwater Corridor multi-use trail.

EQUITY & INCLUSION

Confluence does not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, pregnancy, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status or genetic information. We are committed to a diverse workplace, and to supporting our Members and staff with ongoing career development opportunities. Confluence is an AA/EEO employer.

Confluence provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1: Apply to Project Supervisor: *(Conducts first round interviews and recommends top candidates to Confluence)*

Email the following items to Noah Jenkins, noah@jwc.org, 503-652-7477 x 106 by 5pm on Sunday July 8th:

- **Résumé**
- **Cover letter (1 page)**
- **Contact information for three references (name, title, relationship, email & phone)**

STEP 2: Apply to Confluence:

- **Complete [AmeriCorps Application](#) *(Should be completed by July 15, 2018)***
- **Confluence interviews** and offers positions throughout August 2018.

QUESTIONS ABOUT AMERICORPS? CONTACT:

Sherrie Jackson

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