

POSITION DESCRIPTION

CONFLUENCE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

The Confluence AmeriCorps program advances environmental equity through innovative partnerships with local organizations in the Portland metropolitan area. These positions are life changing service opportunities where the Member addresses critical, environmental needs in low-income communities and communities of color. This position is a dynamic combination between serving a community on a dedicated project (80%) and joining a cohort of Members to engage in professional and leadership development activities (20%). www.confluencecenter.org

EQUITY & INCLUSION

Confluence does not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, parents/guardians with children, or veteran status. Confluence is committed to a diverse workplace, and to supporting our Members and staff with ongoing equity trainings and career development opportunities. Confluence, like many environmental programs, is engaged in predominantly white spaces, and in an effort to decolonize dominant structures of oppression, we encourage people of color to apply.

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

DATES OF SERVICE

September 11, 2019 – July 31, 2020 (11 months – 1700 hours)

POSITION TITLE

Outreach and Riparian Specialist

PROJECT PARTNER

Johnson Creek Watershed Council - www.jcwc.org



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: (20%)
 - 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: (30%)
 - Build partnerships with culturally specific organizations and underrepresented community groups.
 - Assist with coordination of volunteer restoration events
 - Outreach: Lead social media accounts, create and distribute outreach materials for upcoming events
 - Assist with volunteer and intern recruitment, communication, and volunteer database tracking.
- Youth Service-Learning (20%)

- Lead service-learning experiences in the Johnson Creek watershed for elementary, middle and high school students
- Develop educational content for service-learning trips and occasional class presentations
- Continue existing relationships with schools, and seek new partnerships, focusing on schools serving low-income communities and communities of color
- 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, 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.
- Design service-learning experiences for school groups, in coordination with teachers and other partners, with support from JCWC staff. Continue existing relationships, and build new relationships, with teachers interested in providing outdoor learning experiences in the Johnson Creek watershed.
- 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 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

- \$13,992 living allowance paid over the 11-month term of service (approx. \$1,272 monthly, before taxes).
- \$6,095 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.

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@jwcw.org, 503-652-7477 x 106:

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

STEP 2: **Apply to Confluence:**

- **Complete [AmeriCorps Application](#)**
- **Final interviews** and offers positions.

QUESTIONS ABOUT CONFLUENCE OR AMERICORPS?

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