

# Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation

126 N. Main St., P.O. Box 216, Elizabeth, IL 61028  
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www.jdcf.org

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Revised: May 15, 2018

**POSITION TITLE:** Restoration Specialist – Invasive Species Management  
**SUPERVISOR:** Director of Land Conservation  
**LOCATION:** Stockton, IL or Freeport, IL  
**TERM:** 24 Months, with possibility of further employment  
**Application Due By:** June 30, 2018

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### **BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resource Management, Forestry, Environmental Science or related field.
- One or more years training in natural resource management or work in natural resource-related field.
- Ability to identify invasive and non-native herbaceous and woody plant species.
- Experience operating and maintaining various types of equipment, including chainsaws, herbicide applicators, tractors, trucks, trailers, and ATVs.
- Ability to lead educational and outreach activities geared toward the general public as needs arise.
- Ability to perform arduous physical work in difficult terrain.

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

The Restoration Specialist eradicates invasive and non-native plants from conservation areas owned or managed by members of the Northwest Illinois Land Stewardship Cooperative. The Restoration Specialist will implement invasive, exotic plant management control methods using integrated pest management strategies. Control strategies will include manual, mechanical, prescribed fire, and chemical techniques. This position will use accurate and detailed data collection to plan and report invasive species management using Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

This may include one or more of the following functions:

- Removes exotic species using manual, mechanical, prescribed fire, and chemical techniques
  - Documents stewardship activities and/or monitors species using computers and handheld electronic equipment
  - Assists with and serves as a Burn Boss on prescribed burns
  - Maintains tools and equipment
  - Assists with preparing reports and presentations
  - Assists with research and gathering of information on invasive species
  - Assist with designing and leading workshops and educational events for the general public.
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### **REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:**

- 1-2 years training in a Natural Resources related field or related experience in land management.
- Experience working with or knowledge of natural systems. Ability to recognize plant and animal species.
- Ability to operate various types of equipment in a safe and efficient manner (e.g.; chainsaw, tractor, pumper, ATV, 4-wheel drive vehicle, brush cutter, etc.)
- Ability to follow instructions from colleagues
- Ability to perform physical work, sometime under adverse conditions or in inclement weather, such as carrying up to 40 lbs. up to 5 miles over steep terrain for 7 hours/day

- Willingness and ability to travel throughout northwest Illinois
- Ability and willingness to have a varying and flexible work schedule with occasional work on evenings and weekends.
- Ability to obtain proper fire certification including NWCG S-130/190, NWCG S-212, and Illinois Prescribed Burn Manager certification.
- Valid herbicide applicator's license or ability to acquire such within 2 weeks of hire date.
- Valid driver's license
- Computer literacy, including using a database to maintain land management records, use of the internet, and Microsoft Office Suite
- Basic knowledge of ArcMap GIS/GPS software

**COMPLEXITY/PROBLEM SOLVING:**

- May resolve preserve management problems independently as delegated.
- Consult with supervisor to develop plans for resolution of unusual or complex land management problems.
- Monitor the progress of work groups toward achieving preserve management goals.

**DISCRETION/LATITUDE/DECISION-MAKING:**

- Consults supervisor on unusual or complex issues
- Make day-to-day decisions as delegated by supervisor.
- Ability to work independently without direct oversight

**RESPONSIBILITY/OVERSIGHT – SUPERVISORY:**

- Receives detailed instructions to complete required tasks
- May work under close supervision or infrequent supervision
- Supervises no staff, but may help plan and direct work groups, including other staff or volunteers.

**COMMUNICATIONS/INTERPERSONAL CONTACTS:**

- Ability to convey work instructions to other preserve management team members, including volunteers.
- Ability to interact with preserve visitors and to convey basic preserve information.
- Ability to function productively as a member or leader of a work team.
- Ability to communicate effectively with multiple supervisors in different locations.
- Ability to plan and teach training sessions for the general public in the areas of invasive species control, prescribed fire, chainsaw training, etc.
- Ability to conduct various educational and outreach activities aimed toward the general public.

**WORKING CONDITIONS/PHYSICAL EFFORT:**

The Restoration Specialist may work in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain, and under physically demanding circumstances. These conditions:

- Require considerable physical exertion and/or muscular strain
- Require long hours occasionally in isolated settings
- Require the ability to work in extreme hot and cold temperatures
- Require tolerance of stinging and biting insects and arachnids

**Applicants should send their cover letter and resume to:**

Jim Johannsen, Director of Land Conservation - [landprotection@jdcf.org](mailto:landprotection@jdcf.org)

Or mail to: Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation  
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**The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer**