



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Land Conservation Intern
February 1, 2019

Reports to: Director of Land Conservation
Status: 40 hours per week, seasonal position (summer season)

Our Organization

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (“JDCF”) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit conservation land trust whose mission is to preserve land for the lasting well-being of people and wildlife. JDCF is an accredited land trust that works with volunteers, local landowners, business owners, and community leaders to find creative solutions to conservation challenges that produce lasting effects. Since its founding in 1993, JDCF has preserved over 5900 acres of land in the beautiful Driftless Area of Jo Daviess County, Illinois.

Position Summary

The Land Conservation Intern (“the Intern”) position is a 40 hours per week, summer seasonal position responsible for the assisting with the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation’s (“JDCF”) land preservation and land stewardship programs. This position will also assist with the land stewardship program at Twin Ponds Research Farm. This position is designed to give the Intern a comprehensive understanding of nonprofit land conservation practices and procedures.

This position reports to the JDCF Director of Land Conservation. This position will spend approximately one day per week at Twin Ponds Research Farm and four days per week at the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation. This position will be expected to work occasional evenings and weekends for special events.

Duties and Responsibilities

The Land Conservation Intern will work with the Land Manager at Twin Ponds Research Farm, a privately owned permaculture farm specializing in native plant propagation and perennial silvicultural crops. Duties at Twin Ponds Research Farm include propagating native plants for ecological restoration, monitoring bluebird populations, working with hazelnut and chestnut hybridization, native seed harvesting, and other tasks and duties as assigned.

This position will also work alongside the JDCF Land Stewardship Manager and Director of Land Conservation to complete annual monitoring of JDCF’s conservation areas, ecological restorations, educational and outreach events, grant writing and reporting, land preservation real estate transactions, and other tasks and duties as assigned.

Required Skills and Qualifications:

- At least 18 years old at beginning of internship
- Currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Science or Master of Science program in the fields of conservation biology, environmental science, botany, wildlife biology, natural resources, land use management, pre-law, forestry, or other related field.
- Ability to effectively relate to a diverse range of people, including both oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work in extreme environmental conditions including excessive heat, biting and stinging insects, and steep terrain.
- Ability to hike uneven and steep terrain and lift up to 50 pounds
- Basic computer literacy including Microsoft Office suite
- Ability to work semi-independently and without supervision after receiving proper training and instructions from supervisors.
- Valid and current driver's license
- Can provide own transportation to and from work sites.

Internship Learning Outcomes:

On-the-job training will be provided as needed in the following areas:

- Basic knowledge of conducting real estate transactions
- Basic knowledge of natural communities and ability to identify common species indigenous to northwest Illinois
- Basic knowledge of horticulture and raising plants in a greenhouse setting.
- Ability to identify invasive plant species present in northwest Illinois
- Strong social and interpersonal skills including the ability to resolve and mediate conflict and maintain good working relationships with coworkers, volunteers, and members of the community
- Experience operating chainsaws and other power tools
- Basic competency in ArcMap digital mapping software

College Degree Requirements, College Coursework

If the Intern is required to complete a special project or research project as part of this internship in order to satisfy a college degree requirement, applicants are encouraged to share these degree requirements with JDCF staff so that a determination can be made as to whether this internship can provide an opportunity to complete this degree requirement. Strong applicants will design a degree-related project that closely aligns with this position's duties and responsibilities.

Additional Educational and Training Opportunities:

- Opportunity to work with volunteers and members of the community
- Participate in educational and outreach events
- Work outside in the beautiful Driftless Area of northwest Illinois visit surrounding natural areas, and work on independent projects within the restoration
- Herbicide use and safety

- Chainsaw and brush cutter use, safety, and maintenance

To Apply:

Qualified applicants may send their resume and cover letter electronically to landprotection@jdcf.org or by mail to:

Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation
Attn: Jim Johannsen
P.O. Box 216
Elizabeth Illinois 61028

Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2019 or until the position is filled.

Compensation:

\$8.25 per hour, 40 hours a week

Equal Opportunity Employer:

It is the policy of JDCF to provide equal opportunity for all qualified persons and not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, national origin, veteran status, disability, marital status, or any other protected status.

Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.