

## **CONSERVATION DISTRICT TECHNICIAN**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is specialized technical work involving the coordination and field work of programs and activities designed to preserve natural resources and bring awareness to and protect the environment. The work is performed under the direct supervision of higher-level environmental resources staff in accordance with guidelines established by the Environmental Management Council, Soil and Water Conservation District and Water Quality Coordinating Committee. Work guidance (e.g. lead work) may be provided to others including seasonal and volunteer field staff. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Coordinates the activities of and implements a variety of water quality based educational and recreational programs and activities designed to increase awareness of natural resource conservation practices and environmental issues;

Coordinates the activities of the road-stream crossing assessment study by training staff to conduct field assessments, reviewing and uploading assessment data to the RCSWCD and North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) maintained database, providing information to the public, etc.;

Coordinates the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Assessments Volunteer Evaluators program (WAVE) by training seasonal and volunteer staff in the annual monitoring of stream sites, reviewing and editing data collected and performing quality assurance initiatives;

Assists in a wide variety of erosion control, water quality and field work programs;

Acts as a liaison with local school districts and community groups to provide education and awareness of environmental education programs;

Provides technical assistance to Environmental Management staff;

Prepares lesson plans and environmental education activities for students;

Prepares articles and/or news releases to promote water quality improvement projects and programs to the news media and/or newsletters published by environmental conservation related organizations;

Coordinates the activities of volunteers involved in the American Eel Project by training staff and volunteers associated with the collection of eels at various locations within Rockland County (i.e. Minisceongo Creek fyke net program, Sparkill Creek Eel Ladder, etc.) to ensure American Eels are collected, counted, weighed and relocated upstream;

Promotes community participation in programs designed to protect air, water and land from projects which could cause contamination and/or pollution;

Assists with community science recruitment by providing information to the public at events, posting fliers at local venues, etc.;

Assists with the development of promotional materials by creating educational fliers, brochures, and other print materials;

Maintains records in accordance with program requirements.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Working knowledge of the New York State DEC environmental programs (e.g. WAVE, American eel project, I Fish NY, etc.); working knowledge of the principles and practices of natural resource conservation, including the areas of soil and water conservation\*; working knowledge of conservation biology, community resource development and ecological and environmental issues\*; working knowledge of laws, rules and regulations applicable to resource and environmental conservation, including those that pertain to soil and water\*; ability to organize and direct the work of volunteers; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; ability to prepare a variety of educational materials and lesson plans; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relations with others; ability to understand and interpret written material.

(over)

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** A Bachelor's degree or higher in Environmental Science, or comparable curriculum and one (1) year of work experience in environmental science based educational programs, workshops and/or field activities.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Possession of a valid drivers' license to operate a motor vehicle in New York State.

\*To be demonstrated during the probationary period.