***Job Announcement:***

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**Land and Water Steward**

**Reports to: Executive Director Annual salary: $30-35K**

***Non-exempt 30-35 hours/week One Year, with potential extension***

**Position Summary:**

The Land and Water Steward is responsible for the implementation of the capstone stages of multi-year grants totaling $400,000 from the U.S. Forest Service and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The central focus is to identify and complete riparian buffer restoration through the planting of native species along key tributaries of the Merrimack River, and to communicate with and educate the public—including key allies and supporters—about the long-term value of this initiative. The project is expected to be completed within a 12-month period (with funding to match), supplemented by additional activities that will center on MRWC's priority land protection work, including developing partnerships with other NGOs and identifying new, related opportunities. Additional grant funding may be secured that, for the right candidate, could extend the position beyond 12 months. This is an excellent opportunity for a recent graduate student with a background in ecology, water resources, or environmental science to join a team of environmental advocates whose mission is to protect, restore and enhance public access to one of the region’s largest and most diverse watersheds.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Complete the USFS/NFWF grants in a thorough and timely fashion, with primary responsibility for site identification, coordination with other stakeholders, buffer restoration, and periodic reporting to grant authorities.
2. Advise and work with the Executive Director to help identify other related advocacy and educational initiatives.
3. Monitor properties currently owned by MRWC.
4. Work with MRWC's development associate on grant proposals.
5. Participate in MRWC’s outreach and communications initiatives.
6. Take on occasional special projects relevant to the Land and Water Steward's training and experience.

**Qualifications & Skills Required (and Preferred)**

1. Master’s degree in ecology, habitat restoration, environmental science or related field.
2. Up-to-date working knowledge of GIS and similar data-driven spatial programs.

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1. A minimum of three years’ experience in environmental consulting, advocacy, science or regulation (preferred).
2. Facility with standard office software, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint (preferred: Access, InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Publisher).
3. Skill and experience with social media (preferred).
4. Knowledge of and experience with water quality testing (preferred).

**Working Conditions:**

The position includes a combination of office work, field work, and travel. At times, field work may be in inclement weather. Possible telecommuting on a limited basis.

**Physical Requirements:**

Ability to move over rough terrain for moderate distances, and to perform the basic physical work involved in planting small trees and shrubs in an outdoor environment (e.g., lifting up to 40 pounds for short distances, using garden tools). Ability to drive a car.

**Other:**

* Availability of a car at all times, and a valid driver’s license.
* Benefits: Vacation.

**Direct Reports:** None.

**Timing:**

* Applications received by August 31, 2017 will be given preference.
* Projected starting date range is September 15-30, 2017, but we will interview until the right candidate is found.

***To Apply:***

Mail or email: cover letter; resume; brief, relevant writing sample; and two professional references to:

MRWC Land and Water Steward

Merrimack River Watershed Council

60 Island Street, Suite 211-E

Lawrence, MA 01840

or

info@merrimack.org

*No phone calls, please*