



Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Natural Resource Technician

Job Code: 624

Business Unit: Natural Resources

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Manager Title: Natural Resource Restoration Coordinator

Last Date Reviewed: September 9, 2021

Job Purpose

This position assists with the maintenance of the District natural areas, ecology and volunteer programs, and native plant nursery in concert with the restoration of forests, prairies, wetlands, and plant communities in order to support and uphold the District's Mission.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Perform maintenance and management of natural communities
- Perform maintenance of the District's natural areas by removal of exotic and invasive species
- Perform annual maintenance, and assist with daily operation of the District's Native Plant Nursery
- Manually and mechanically harvest, clean, sort, and disperse native seed
- Perform handling, mixing, and applying of pesticides using various spray equipment and protective apparel
- Perform pest control program activities for the management of invasive species, which utilize various herbicides (application rates, timing), mechanical control (mowing, hand cutting), biological control, and prescription fire
- Maintain accurate records of related work and pesticide applications
- Perform minor maintenance on mechanical, and/or hand equipment
- Assist Ecology Staff with research, inventory, and data collection. Make recommendations for species control / enhancement programs on District properties
- Lead prescribed fire crew as a Crew Leader in charge of 3 to 6 crewmembers
- Lead field crews in the collection of native plant seed, control of exotic species, installation of plant plugs and/or trees
- Operate equipment such as: tractors equipped with forestry mulcher or rotary cutter; skid steer/rubber tracked loader equipped with bucket, grapple bucket; front end loader/backhoe
- Participate in ecological management programs including sampling of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems
- Oversee seasonal staff and oversee the work of consultants and contractors
- May participate in deer management program and aerial deer census including overnight responsibilities
- Perform other duties as assigned

Education and Experience Required

Education: BS/BA in Forestry, Resource Management, Biological Science, or related field preferred.

Related Experience: One (1) year of experience in natural resource or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Special training or other license, certification, etc.: Ability to obtain a Illinois Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with tanker, combination vehicle, and airbrakes endorsement within six (6) months of employment, Illinois Department of Agriculture Pesticide Operator's License, Midwest Ecological Prescribed Burn Certification or Equivalent, National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) I-100, S-130, S-190, S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior First Aid CPR AED certification

Skills In: Working independently and fulfilling tasks with attention to detail. Ability to operate line trimmers, hand tools, and heavy equipment. Ability to identify native (including endangered and threatened) and non-native plant species and have an understanding of their respective ecosystems and management techniques.

Onboarding/Training Requirements: Criminal Background Check
 DOT Drug Screen
 Driver's License Check
 HBV Series/Hepatitis B (Candidate can refuse)
 National Sex Offender Registry Check
 Physical
 CPR/1st Aid Training

Working Environment and Physical Effort Required

Physical Demands (Indicate the amount of time spent performing the following activities.)

Activity	None	Under 30%	30% to 60%	Over 60%
Stand				X
Walk				X
Sit		X		
Use hands to finger, handle or feel				X
Reach with hands and arms				X
Climb or balance		X		
Stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl				X
Talk or hear				X
Taste or smell				X

Check the highest work level required to perform related to lifting or pulling/pushing

	Sedentary		Light		Medium		Heavy		Very Heavy	
Maximums	10 lbs.		20 lbs.		50 lbs.		100 lbs.	X	Over 100 lbs.	
Frequency	Small		10 lbs.		25 lbs.	X	50 lbs.		Over 50 lbs.	

Describe below the specific duties that require the physical demands checked above.

	Work is primarily sedentary in nature.
X	Other (describe)
Describe:	Exposure to elements like, rain, cold, noise, dust, pests, and insects; manual brush clearing and removal; heavy lifting and operating noisy equipment; falling trees; difficult terrain; exposure to smoke and head during prescribed fires and carry 40lb water pump on back; exposure to heat and humidity while applying herbicides and carrying 30lbs on back; chemical exposure, hazardous terrain; deer culling program requires lifting heavy (100+lbs) carcasses

Does the position require personal protective equipment (e.g. safety glasses, steel toe shoes, respirators, etc.)?

	Not Applicable
X	Other (describe)
Describe:	Eye protection and steel toe shoes regularly when performing field work. Ear protection around chainsaws and clearing saws. Herbicide application requires the use of all recommended PPE (such as chemical resistant gloves and aprons and Tyvek jump suits.) Chain saw operation requires the use of hard hats, hearing protection, leather gloves, and chain saw resistant chaps. Prescribed fire requires the use of fire resistant Nomex coveralls, fire resistant neck and face shroud, leather gloves, and hard hat. Required PPE for applicable situations.

Disclaimer: This description is not designed to contain a comprehensive listing of all activities, duties, or responsibilities required of the job.