

ADIRONDACK INVASIVE SPECIES STEWARD

2010 Summer Opportunity with the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program

This Stewardship position provides hands-on exposure to all aspects of the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program's invasive species prevention and management work throughout the Adirondack region.

Essential Functions

Lead Projects: The lead projects will focus on invasive species surveys and management within the Adirondack region. Working with the APIPP Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species Project Coordinators and conservation partners, the steward will be involved in surveying, management, and public outreach on a variety of projects throughout the region. Half the amount of time will be spent assisting the Terrestrial Coordinator with early detection and control of terrestrial invasive plant infestations, and the other half of time will be spent assisting the Aquatic Coordinator with aquatic plant surveys and management at priority sites.

a) Surveying: Directly assist with early detection surveys throughout the Adirondack region within NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Forest Preserve lands and waters, NYS Department of Transportation Right-of-Ways, wetlands and private lands. Validate, document and measure new infestations via hand-held GPS unit, survey forms and photo-documentation.

b) Management: Directly assist with implementing best management practices to contain, suppress and eradicate terrestrial invasive plant infestations. Duties to include manual management, release of biocontrols and preparatory work for approved herbicidal controls. Assist with the secure containment and disposal of gleaned invasive plant materials. Assistance with aquatic invasive plant management efforts may include providing topside assistance with SCUBA hand-harvesting efforts.

c) Public Outreach: Through daily course of work provide public outreach at invasive species worksites and at prescribed events throughout the Adirondack region, e.g., Invasive Species Awareness Week, and as special opportunities arise.

General: The steward will work closely with APIPP staff and principal partners and will report directly to the Terrestrial and Aquatic Project Coordinators. In addition to the listed duties, there will be vehicle, tools and equipment maintenance and other work as needed as summer work priorities evolve, and as the steward's interests dictate. Work will be primarily in the field in all sorts of weather, sometimes in remote locations with rugged terrain. The steward is expected to work independently as well as with APIPP partners and the public.

Additional Training Opportunities

The steward will be exposed to a range of educational opportunities during the course of the summer field season. These may include training sessions in identification of invasive species, assessing and ranking threat status of infestations based on transport vectors and geophysical settings, control methods, and species-specific and community type-specific trainings. Working with a regional conservation program will broaden the selected candidate's knowledge of ecoregional and worldwide conservation issues and strategies for addressing threats to biodiversity.

Additional Job Information

- **Housing is not provided**

Basic Qualifications

- College Sophomore and 6 months of related experience (can be a combination of past job experience, academic work, volunteer work, etc)
- Basic computer skills, including familiarity with Microsoft Word and Excel
- Valid drivers license

Desired Qualifications

- Demonstrated interest in conservation issues
- Strong science background; coursework in botany, terrestrial ecology and basic aquatic ecology
- Well-organized and flexible
- Motivated self-starter, able to work independently with minimal direction
- Enjoys working outdoors, sometimes in adverse weather conditions
- Comfortable handling a canoe
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Basic working knowledge of safe operation of hand and power tools
- Comfortable driving a large 4-wheel drive pickup truck
- Ability to utilize GPS

Dates and Compensation

- May 17-September 17, 2010, 18 weeks total; flexible depending on the availability of the successful candidate
- \$11/hour, plus mileage reimbursement if steward uses his/her own vehicle for work-related travel (no reimbursement for daily commute to office)
- 40-hour work week, generally Mondays through Fridays. At least 2-3 weekend days required. Some days, particularly those in remote field locations, will be longer than 8 hours.

Application Information

The following are required for your application to be considered:

- Please submit your cover letter and resume in one document. In your cover letter include an explanation of how this stewardship position fits with your career goals and conservation interests and describe your interest in the Adirondacks.
- Name, title, address, and telephone number for three references (employers and/or teachers/professors);
- Transcript of your last three years of school (university and/or high school, as appropriate).

Application deadline: March 17th, 2010

Applications must be made via nature.org/careers

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