Aquatic Invasive Species Technician

POSTING DATE
February 10, 2020

DETAILS
24 hrs/week for 14 weeks: Week of May 25th – Week of August 31st; $12-$13/hr commensurate with experience

POSITION SUMMARY
We are hiring 3 Aquatic Invasive Species Technicians for the 2020 field season. This position requires a genuine enthusiasm for the Benzie Conservation District’s (BCD’s) mission to preserve and enhance the natural resources of Benzie County, and beyond. The Technician will assist the BCD staff in the (aquatic) field at a variety of locations across Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Manistee counties to complete objectives set for the Aquatic Invasive Species Pathways Program. Through a recent funding award by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program, this BCD program is looking forward to a busy field season. Each Technician will support a range of activities – lake monitoring, public outreach and educational events, aquatic invasive species surveys and boat decontamination, related data entry and equipment care. Strong interpersonal skills, a willingness to work outdoors in a variety of conditions, confidence working on or around water, attention to detail and a background in the natural sciences are preferred.

RESPONSIBILITIES
• Works with BCD staff to provide educational boat wash events
• Receives training for proper use of boat wash unit by BCD staff
• Assists BCD staff in conducting lake monitoring on five inland lakes
• Receives training for proper lake monitoring protocols through BCD staff
• Tows mobile boat wash trailer and BCD boat (~14’ Lund) to different work sites, with BCD vehicle
• Can navigate routes to different work sites with ease
• Records data from public surveys and boat wash events, completes data entry in Excel
• Works with volunteers and partner organizations, both in boat washing and lake monitoring
• Involved in providing educational programs to various community groups
• Communicates well about aquatic invasive species, prevention and detection

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE & PREFERRED SKILLS
• Valid driver’s license and upstanding driving record
• Must be a high school graduate
• Credits toward a Bachelor’s of Science in Environmental Science, Limnology, Environmental Education or related science preferred
• Willingness to work outside under a variety of conditions, including weekends and holidays
• Willingness to conduct monitoring from a boat, and willingness to launch (or learn to launch) the BCD’s trailered boat
• Highly reliable and punctual
• Team player and self-motivated
• Excellent personal communication skills needed, experience working in public outreach desirable
• Demonstrated ability to organize and carry out basic data sampling, data management, and computer skills
• Knowledge of aquatic invasive species and/or experience with aquatic species identification preferred

Please send 1-page cover letter detailing why you’re interested in this position, and resumé to Tad Peacock (Benzie Conservation District Executive Director) at: tad@benziecd.org by March 9th, by 5PM – interview invitations will be sent out March 13th for selected applicants.