

Position Announcement

Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Planner

Position Title:	Conservation Planner
Position Location:	Martin SWCD, 923 North State Street, Suite 110, Fairmont, MN
Hours:	Full-time; Funding is obtained for 3 years with anticipation of continued funding
Salary Range:	Depends on qualifications
Benefits:	Paid holidays, annual leave, sick leave, medical insurance, and PERA
Closing Date:	September 12, 2018 – 4:30 pm
Interview Date:	September 20, 2018 (invited candidates only)

Typical Work Activities:

- Develops conservation plans with landowners in the Blue Earth River HUC8 Watershed area that meet landowner objectives, eFOTG standards, MN NRCS planning guidelines, and address identified resource concerns
- Performs on-site Resource Inventory and Evaluations for farmers and landowners utilizing planning tools such as soil erosion prediction models, pasture condition scoring, water quality tools, and wildlife assessments
- Educates farmers and landowners regarding sound conservation planning
- Provide maintenance information for conservation practices to landowners
- Is knowledgeable of funding opportunities for the implementation of conservation plans and assists landowners through the application process
- Assists with prioritization of individual applications for funding and contract development processes
- Collaborates with and frequently travels to field offices in the Blue Earth River Watershed

Minimum Qualifications:

- Successful completion of a full four (4) year course of study (including junior and senior level courses) from an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field of study in soil conservation or related agricultural or natural resource disciplines such as agronomy, soil science, forestry, agricultural education, or agricultural engineering.

OR A combination of education and experience in Soil Conservation or a related agricultural or natural resource field.

OR 5+ years of work experience directly relating to the Typical Work Activities listed above.

- Achieve NRCS Certified Conservation Planner status within 1 year of being hired.
- Obtain Job Approval Authority of a Level 3 for Inventory & Evaluation phase for practices common within the watershed within 1 year of being hired.

- Basic computer skills including the ability to use Microsoft Office products such as MS Word and MS Excel.
- Familiarity and/or experience with standard concepts, practices, techniques and procedures within the agriculture industry
- Communication skills
- Organizational skills
- Ability to work independently
- Valid Drivers' license required
- Ability to obtain USDA Federal Security Clearance.

Preferred Qualifications

- ArcGIS experience is strongly preferred.
- NRCS Certified Conservation Planner
- Experience with NRCS Toolkit planning software
- Certified Crop Adviser
- Nutrient Management Planning and/or Nutrient Management Certification
- Manure Management Planning and implementation
- Conservation Plan writing and implementation
- Knowledgeable of soils and soil survey basics
- Design and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for agriculture operations
- Public speaking and/or teaching

Physical Requirements and Demands

Applicants must be able to work in locations that feature rough terrain typical of agricultural farming operations. This work involves regular and recurrent exposure to operating agricultural equipment and livestock, adverse weather such as snow and icy field conditions, and unimproved roads.

Application Procedure: Submit application and cover letter to Martin SWCD, 923 North State Street, Suite 110, Fairmont, MN 56031 or by email to ashleybrenke@frontier.com. The applications can be found at www.martinswcd.net, picked up at 923 North State Street, Suite 110, Fairmont, MN 56031, or they may be mailed or emailed to applicant by calling 507-235-6680. **Applications must be received by the Closing Date of 4:30 pm on September 12, 2018.**

Martin SWCD is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Candidates will be considered without discrimination to race, color, religion, sex, natural origin, politics, marital status, physical handicap, age, or member or non-membership in an employee organization.