



JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Park Biologist

STATUS: Full Time, Exempt

SALARY GRADE: 24

JOB CONTENT:

I. Role:

At Summit Metro Parks our job is to collect, protect and perfect natural areas and biodiversity in and around Summit County for the perpetual benefit and enjoyment of our residents. As a full time biologist in our Conservation Department, your role is to provide direction toward this end primarily through ecological monitoring and assessment. However, the selected candidate will bring a passion for science, ecology, and saving planet Earth, as well as a demonstrated ability to CREATE natural resource projects and programs that push the limits of conservation and inspire the everyday citizen to act.

Work ethic, emotional intelligence and effective oral and written communication are an essential part of the job. So, although you may be highly skilled, brains are not worth more than a hard days work - your duties will still include hauling field equipment, cutting brush, and cleaning up after yourself. As part of a diverse group of scientists, none of whom may agree on what conservation means, you will need to know when and how to stand your ground, even with those in authority, while maintaining the humility to always consider that you may be wrong - *you gotta know when to hold em, know when to fold em, know when to walk away, know when to run*. You should have the ability to hold audiences spell-bound while clearly explaining deep ecological concepts. A green thumb will also be beneficial.

2. Typical Daily Responsibilities:

- Identify, delineate and assess habitats, based on environmental conditions and plant associations.
- Use and/or develop efficient habitat monitoring protocols, typically based on plant communities.
- Perform thorough plant and wildlife surveys across the district on a recurrent basis.
- Locate, monitor and manage rare species and habitats.
- Manage a native plant propagation program utilizing a greenhouse and/or outdoor nursery.
- Manage a native landscape property certification program.
- Perform wetlands determinations, delineations and assessments according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA standards.
- Utilize current data collection and storage technologies (such as GPS, remote sensing, CAD, GIS, database, and web-based systems) to catalog and track natural resources for easy retrieval.

- Implement programs to address threats to regional biodiversity, such as invasive species, habitat fragmentation and stormwater management. Design and oversee various other natural resource management projects, including wetland mitigation and habitat restorations.
- Assist with the preparation of cultural management plans, environmental documentation and permit applications, such as those required for CWAs or NEPA compliance. Produce various mapping products and datasets as necessary.
- Additional tasks may include, but are not limited to: plant and animal propagation or control, assistance with cultural resource identification, public speaking, community involvement, grant writing, etc.
- Cooperate with a team of multi-disciplinary scientist. Oversee seasonal and part-time park biologists, including assisting with candidate selection, scheduling and supervising staff.
- Assist with various Citizen Science Programs, working with and supervising volunteers and members of the public.
- Represent Summit Metro Parks at professional meetings, conferences, and symposia.
- Stay current in professional field.
- Write technical reports and interpretive literature pertaining to resource management efforts.
- Develop & maintain procedural manuals for areas of responsibility.
- Regular attendance as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

I. Required:

- Bachelors degree in related field with several years of comparable experience.
- Strong knowledge of and ability to identify local flora and fauna
- Demonstrated written and oral communication and presentation skills.
- Fluent with PC/Windows & iPad/iOS, Microsoft Office & ArcGIS.
- Demonstrated organizational skills and time management.
- Demonstrated problem solving and analytical skills.
- Demonstrated emotional intelligence including: self-awareness and accurate self-assessment, sensitivity and empathy, openness, reliability, and consistency.
- Proven track record of establishing and maintaining critical relationships internally and externally.

- Demonstrated trust, integrity and credibility.
- Conflict resolution skills.
- Valid Ohio driver's license.

I. Preferred:

- Training and experience in jurisdictional wetlands delineation.

ESSENTIAL PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT:

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, walk (often on uneven terrain), talk and hear. The employee is frequently required to use hands to finger, handle or feel and is required to reach with hands and arms. The employee is required to sit, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl, taste or smell. The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 25 pounds and may occasionally lift and/or move up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.

The employee must be self-motivated and comfortable working alone. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly exposed to extreme outdoor weather conditions including temperatures, humidity, steep topography, aquatic habitats, fumes or airborne particles, and confined spaces. The employee may be exposed to body fluids of others while performing first aid/rescue procedures.

CONDITIONS OF CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT:

- Must obtain Ohio Pesticide Applicator license within one year of employment.
- Must obtain First Aid/CPR certification within one year of employment.
- Must successfully complete a one year probationary period.