

Employment Position Open: Urban Agriculture Program Leader

Posted November 10, 2023

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to anchoragewcd@gmail.com. The position will remain open until it is filled, with the first review of applications beginning November 27, 2023. Short-listed applicants will be asked to provide references.

Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District (ASWCD) was re-established in November of 2021 after many years of inactivity and has a dynamic new leadership team. We are in the beginning phases of developing an Urban Agriculture Program, and we are looking for the right person to grow this program.

Duties:

- Manage the soil testing program and learn how to provide fertilizer recommendations.
- Become trained as an NRCS conservation planner, which may include attending training in Palmer, Wasilla, or on the Kenai Peninsula.
- Coordinate agricultural conservation workshops, in partnership with other agencies and nonprofits, including Anchor Gardens, NRCS, and the Cooperative Extension Service.
- Provide technical assistance to farmers, orchardists, gardeners, and forest landowners.
- Work together with the District Manager and Urban Agriculture Committee to think strategically about program direction, apply for new funding, and grow the program sustainably.

Microclimate Map Project Duties (if funded):

- Install 6 weather stations at local orchards.
- Set up a GIS project with satellite weather data, weather station locations, DEM or LIDAR, and work with technical advisors to develop a microclimate map for the Anchorage area.
- Collect and organize fruit variety data from orchards and research institutes throughout our district and develop GIS layers for fruit variety by microclimate.
- Coordinate workshops to share project findings and engage the public.

Qualifications:

- A strong background in agricultural conservation, including experience with agricultural research experiments, technical assistance to farmers, and mitigating resource concerns.
- Ability to work cooperatively with partner organizations, interface with the public, and represent ASWCD professionally at outreach events.
- Experience using GIS and managing large amounts of data.
- A vehicle that can be used for work, with mileage reimbursement.
- Ability to work from home sometimes (we have limited office space).
- Grant writing experience, project management skills, and ability to think strategically.

Hours, Wages, and Benefits: This full-time (40hrs/week) hourly position will start at \$25-29 per hour DOE. This is a permanent year-round position with PTO and holidays, contingent upon adequate grant funding (we have funding through at least October 2024 currently). At this time we do not offer health insurance or matching contributions for retirement.