



1370 N. Water Street, Suite 3
P.O. Box 753
Platteville, WI 53818
p: 608.348.7110
e: swbadger@swbadger.org
www.swbadger.com

Title: **Stewardship Specialist**
Type of Employment: Full Time (36 – 40 hrs/week)
Salary: \$17 - \$20 per hour depending on experience
Benefits: Health insurance stipend and 24 paid vacation and holidays.
Location: Platteville, Wisconsin

Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development Council's Mission

Southwest Badger RC&D is a 501(c)3 non-profit conservation and rural development organization serving ten counties in Southwest Wisconsin (Crawford, Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, La Crosse, Lafayette, Richland, Sauk, and Vernon counties). Our mission is to implement natural resource conservation that supports sustainable communities and a high quality of life in the beautiful Southwest Wisconsin Driftless region.

Position Description

Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development has an immediate opening for a full-time Stewardship Specialist. The position will be based in Platteville or Dodgeville, Wisconsin, and will require travel throughout a five county region including Western Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, and Lafayette counties. The focus of this position is to lead natural resources education, prevention, protection, and control efforts in the five county region, which will focus on aquatic invasive species. Activities and outreach may be integrated with related resource topics such as terrestrial invasive species, soil health, water quality, forest, prairie, and agricultural resource improvements. The Stewardship Specialist will accomplish this by convening state, county and local stakeholders and building a collaborative network of partners and volunteers drawing upon existing non-profit, for-profit, and government organizations in the Driftless Area whose mission aligns with Southwest Badger RC&D.

Stewardship Specialist duties include:

- (1) Facilitating regional stakeholder meetings and collaborating with stakeholders and volunteers to carry out resource conservation efforts;
- (2) Initiating, developing and implementing management plans for habitat restoration/enhancement projects; assisting landowners and organizations in stewarding properties.
- (3) Stewarding properties may involve gathering materials and supplies, meeting with and generating stakeholder support, and performing restoration activities (removal of invasive species, tree planting, installing irrigation, and fencing, etc.)
- (4) Developing outreach media and events related to project work including development of social media tools, videos, and web pages.

- (5) Assist with Southwest Badger RC&D organizational fundraising activities including attending member events/activities, set up before and clean up after events, and donor cultivation;
- (6) Building relationships and coordinating with agency and NGO partners for new project proposals;
- (7) Technical report writing, proposal and grant writing, and recordkeeping;
- (8) Developing and facilitating workshops, field seminars, and floating workshops to engage with the public and natural resource professionals;
- (9) Conducting education and outreach to students, clubs, "Friends" groups, nurseries, local businesses, organizations, resource professionals, highway departments, etc.;
- (10) Monitoring for new populations of invasive or other species, including vouchering according to WDNR protocols, reporting, and mapping;
- (11) Recruiting and training new volunteers and organizations to identify and help to control new AIS populations, as well as to address other natural resource concerns;
- (12) Conducting boat checks and educational outreach at boat launches;
- (13) Working independently but operating as a team, the Stewardship Specialist will be expected to perform other duties as requested;

Minimum Qualifications

- Master's degree in a natural resources field plus two years relevant work experience, OR Bachelor's degree in a natural resources field plus four or more years relevant work experience
- Familiarity with aquatic invasive species and local land & water conservation issues
- Plant identification experience
- Demonstrated experience in building networks and coordinating projects with multiple stakeholders; experience and skills with conflict management may be beneficial
- Strong interpersonal skills and a collaborative attitude
- Ability to work independently and in group settings
- Excellent oral, written, communication and presentation skills
- Willingness to travel throughout the project area and attend evening/weekend events
- Ability to plan and implement educational programs, including technical information
- Understanding of ecology of terrestrial and aquatic biologic systems, stream morphology, and sources of water quality pollution/degradation

Preferred Qualifications

- Self-starter: willing to initiate new projects but careful to get supervisory support and stakeholder backing before taking action
- GIS mapping competence
- Experience with social media; web page maintenance, facebook, twitter, etc.
- Familiarity with local flora and fauna, soils and waterbodies



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- Experience with USDA NRCS programs, standards, and forms
- Experience with and appreciation of canoeing and kayaking
- Experience with water safety procedures and assisting others

Other Requirements

- Must possess or be able to obtain a valid driver's license
- Provide proof of auto insurance coverage
- Must have a reliable personal vehicle

Terms of Employment

This position is funded mainly through a WI DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Project Grant. The grant project has guaranteed funding through December, 2019. Funding beyond that date will be determined by upcoming grant proposals being submitted and awarded. The incumbent is expected to provide support to the Executive Director in searching for funding and developing potential follow on projects.

Application Instructions

Please mail or email a letter of introduction, resume, and three (3) professional references to Selection Committee, swbadger@swbadger.org or P.O. Box 753, Platteville, WI 53818. For more information contact Becky Olson at (608) 348-7110. Applications should be submitted by January 7, 2019, and anticipated start date is February 1. Applications will be accepted and the position will be open until filled.