

Stewardship Technician

The Nature Conservancy - Poultney



Creating a world where people and nature thrive together is a global challenge that requires more than just education and knowledge; it takes inspired ingenuity and strong determination. Here at The Nature Conservancy in Vermont, you'll find yourself surrounded with professionals brought together with that same sense of urgency to better protect the lands and waters on which all life depends. As our AmeriCorps Stewardship Technician, you'll have the opportunity to take part in hands-on-the-earth projects, stewarding some of the most ecologically important lands in Vermont while sharing stories of the effort along the way. Connected to TNC's world-wide network of resources, you can discover how one simple, local act can have a tremendous impact. Apply today!

This position is part of the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board AmeriCorps (VHCB AmeriCorps). The VHCB AmeriCorps program supports the innovative dual-goal approach to creating stable affordable housing opportunities for Vermont residents while preserving the natural and working landscape. VHCB AmeriCorps is a national service program that places members with non-profit housing or land and energy conservation organizations around the state.

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends. The Stewardship Technician position is based in Montpelier and will support the Conservancy's mission primarily in the northern part of the state. This person will participate in and support hands-on, outdoor field work several days per week, which may include invasive plant control and mapping, trail work, boundary marking, property monitoring, and scientific research. In addition, they may support the work of staff on our conservation and communications teams to help further the mission of The Nature Conservancy.

Essential Functions:

- Participate in, support, and periodically lead outdoor stewardship workdays with interns and volunteer groups;
- Maintain walking trails, signs, ledger boxes, kiosks, and parking areas, which will occasionally involve operating a chainsaw and other power equipment for trail clearing and maintenance (safety and operating training will be provided)
- Monitor and mark natural area boundaries
- Conduct monitoring visits to conserved lands in northern Vermont using GPS-enabled data collection devices and uploading reports to web-based system
- Participate in and support projects ecological monitoring and restoration on conserved sites
- Prepare for and follow up after field workdays, including equipment maintenance & cleaning, record keeping, progress-tracking on shared databases, and report writing
- Conduct basic GIS (Geographic Information Systems) mapping and data collection
- Support and occasionally lead field trips, webinars and other events for the general public, TNC members, and volunteers, which may include some weekends or evenings
- Create and develop content for social media and print outlets
- Participate in an Independent Service Project under the guidance of VHCB AmeriCorps



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- Participate in all VHCB AmeriCorps Trainings, Service Days, Events, and Program Initiatives.
- Engage in professional and personal development activities and networking opportunities.

Secondary Functions:

- Special projects (particularly during winter months) may include creating or updating management plans, restoration plans, and interpretive materials for natural areas; conducting literature reviews related to land stewardship; and/or other projects as Conservancy needs and member interests dictate.
- Coordinate with long-time partners and neighbors to TNC to distribute information and outreach materials on conservation topics and TNC's role in the community.

Desired Qualifications:

- Ability and enthusiasm to maintain positive outlook through physically strenuous outdoor activities several days per week.
- Ability to maintain a flexible schedule to serve occasional long days, evenings, or weekends for volunteer workdays, special events or trainings
- Training or experience in:
 - Vermont flora, fauna, and ecology, and ability to identify plants
 - natural science, land stewardship, and/or related field(s)
 - use of GPS technologies and ArcMap GIS software/programs
 - light carpentry and/or trail work
- Ability to serve with a diversity of volunteers, staff, community leaders, and organizational partners
- Demonstrated ability to serve independently and take initiative as well as work as part of a team
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Organized and attentive to detail; ability to manage time, diverse activities, and multiple projects
- Computer literate, working knowledge of Microsoft programs
- Valid driver's license, no major motor vehicle violations in last 3 years
- Flexible schedule and the ability to be available for long field days, sometimes with extensive driving, one to four times per week
- Commitment to serving full 11-month commitment (1720-hour position)

Minimum Qualifications:

- Be US citizen or have permanent resident status;
- Be at least 18 years of age upon entering the Pre-Service Orientation or 17 years of age with verified parental permission;
- Be a high school graduate, have a GED certificate, or be willing to work towards a GED as part of the service-term. A member cannot have dropped out of high school to join AmeriCorps.
- Has not been convicted of murder or sexual assault and is willing to undergo a National Service Criminal History Check;
- Be committed to the VHCB AmeriCorps program's ethic of service, appreciation of diversity, and personal and professional development of its participants;
- Have the ability and enthusiasm to drive to, attend, and participate in all required trainings and events, and be prepared to drive up to 2-3 hours each way.
- Available to regularly serve 40 hours per week



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Additional Information:

Approximately half of service will be performed in an office setting and the other half will be outdoors in inclement weather and steep terrain. There will be some long days and several hours spent driving to field sites regularly. Some evening and weekend service will be required.



Position begins September 8th, 2021 and ends August 12th, 2022

This position is **Full Time**: Requires 1,720 hours for an average of 40 hours per week for 48 weeks. Member will receive a living allowance of \$20,400 (pre-tax), and an education award of \$6,345 (pre-tax) upon successful completion of service.

Other benefits include health insurance, federal school loan forbearance, and various training and networking opportunities.

To Apply: <https://vhcb.org/our-programs/vhcb-ameri-corps/positions>

For questions about this position or to send additional materials:

Murray McHugh
Stewardship Manager
802-287-6877 x108
mmchugh@tnc.org

Application deadline: July 11, 2020.

Additional information on AmeriCorps is available at www.americorps.org.

The Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB) is sponsoring this AmeriCorps position through their AmeriCorps Program. VHCB is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Positions are open to all applicants without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran's status, religion or creed.

Member Name: _____

Signature: _____

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