

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

FILLMORE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Title: Grazing Land Management Specialist

Position Location:

900 Washington St. NW
Preston, MN 55965

Application Deadline:

4:00 P.M. Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Starting Salary Range:

\$34,434 to \$36,830 per year, depending on qualifications/experience

Benefits include sick leave, annual leave, paid holidays, PERA retirement plan, health insurance, and medical savings accounts.

Position Description: The Grazing Land Management Specialist position is funded for two years with a MN Clean Water Legacy grant with the possibility of additional grant funding to continue the position beyond two years. The Grazing Specialist performs a variety of specialized and technical work functions for grazing management activities to the SWCDs located in the Root River Watershed. Responsibilities and assignments involve providing technical assistance and education to livestock producers located in the Root River Watershed to develop and implement best management practices related to pastureland and grassland management. Technical assistance for installing conservation buffers may also be provided to landowners. This position is under the direct supervision of the District Administrator. Transportation may be provided, but in some cases may be required from the employee and will be reimbursed. This position does not require overnight travel except for occasional training or similar events.

Required Education and Experience: Requires a minimum of an Associates degree (AA/AS) or equivalent from an accredited school in natural resources management, environmental studies, or related discipline; or an equivalent combination of education and experience in these areas. Applicants must have strong written, verbal, and communications skills. Must have strong computer skills, including knowledge of MS Excel, Word, and Access. Grazing experience preferred. Candidate must be able to work under minimum supervision, work outdoors in all weather conditions, and walk over rough terrain on a regular basis, and on occasion, must be able to lift up to 50 pounds. Applicant must have a valid driver's license.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provides technical assistance in the development and implementation of grazing land and grassland management plans to producers located in the Root River watershed to reduce bacteria and nutrient loading into the Root River and its tributaries.
- Assists producers in finding funding to implement these plans.
- Organizes grazing and forage management workshops to inform operators of Best management Practices (BMPs) and the latest developments for pastureland management and provide for information exchange between producers.
- Conducts onsite visits to individual farms in the watershed, which includes portions of Fillmore, Houston, Winona, Olmsted, and Mower counties.
- Coordinates a system to provide assistance to all participating counties in an equitable manner working cooperatively with the SWCDs and other state and federal agencies in the watershed.
- Investigates other sources of grant funding for projects and programs that enhance grazing management in the Root River watershed and are beneficial to other parts of the region and state.
- Reports all work and accomplishments on a regular basis and assists with meeting all annual reporting requirements.
- Provides technical assistance to landowners with installing conservation buffers.
- Performs other duties as assigned by the District Administrator.

Hiring Procedure:

Applicants must submit a completed Fillmore SWCD application, resume, and cover letter for employment. Applications may be picked up at 900 Washington St. NW, Preston MN or by calling 507-765-3878 Ext 3 or on the world wide web at www.fillmoreswcd.org. Applications will be evaluated based on the information supplied in the resume and SWCD application to determine if they meet the minimum job qualifications. Top applicants will be selected for interviews.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

All candidates will be considered without discrimination for any non-merit reason such as race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status.