POSITION DESCRIPTION

Conservation Technician Intern

POSITION TITLE: Conservation Technician Intern
APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2019 4:00 p.m.
POSITION LOCATION: Glenwood, MN duration up to a 12-month position
COMPENSATION: $12.00 to $14.00 per hour depending on qualifications and experience and includes Public Employee Retirement Benefits.

POSITION DEFINITION:
The Conservation Technician Intern will be responsible for collecting weekly water samples from vacuum lysimeters, conducting nitrate-nitrogen analysis and documenting test results at the Rosholt Farm near Westport, Minnesota. Technician Intern will also be responsible for assisting with tree planting, grass seeding’s, shoreline restoration plantings, stream monitoring, buffer staking, educational programming, and general assistance with all programs offered through the district.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
Collect water samples weekly from each of the vacuum lysimeter stations. Perform water testing using spectrophotometer equipment and standard operating procedures, document and record test results for each lysimeter at the job site. Prepare and submit test samples to a certified laboratory for analysis according to Minnesota Department of Agriculture Quality Control requirements. Maintain and organize data. Assist where needed with research related management work including; plot fertilization, crop scouting, plant sample collection, soil sampling, soil moisture monitoring, stalk sampling and harvest. Maintain, operate and secure equipment properly at the project site. Perform operations and maintenance tasks at Herman Rosholt Farm project site. Comply with health and safety procedures. May involve other duties as assigned to complete work related to Rosholt Farm Project activities. Carry out other duties as assigned including assisting with tree planting including installation of weed barrier fabric, grass seeding’s using no-till drill and tractor, pulling gooseneck trailers with equipment, assist with shoreline restoration plantings, stream monitoring, observation well monitoring, buffer staking using GPS equipment, educational programming including the fair, and general assistance with all programs offered through the District. This position is meant to assist and will serve as a good opportunity for an individual to gain experience and begin a career in the natural resources or environmental field.

REQUIRED SKILLS:
Education: Course study in Hydrology, Agronomy, Ag Education, Environmental Sciences, or Soil Science.
Qualities/Core Competencies:
• Organized with a strong attention to detail and time management skills
• Demonstrates a strong level of accountability
• Good written and verbal communications skills
• Exhibits professionalism
• High degree of initiative, self-motivation and ability to work independently
• Farm, rural, or agribusiness background preferred; experience with machinery or soil and water monitoring equipment helpful
• Must be able and willing to work outdoors in varied weather conditions; capable of lifting up to 70 pounds
• Possess a valid driver’s license

JOB LOCATION: Westport, Minnesota (Pope County)

POSITION TYPE:
This is a temporary up to a 12-month position that is grant-funded.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Submit a completed application and resume by the deadline to:

Holly Kovarik, District Manager
Pope SWCD
1680 Franklin Street North
Glenwood, MN 56334
holly.kovarik@mn.nacdnet.net
320-634-5327 phone