Position Announcement: Conservation Technician (Berkshires)

Position Description:
The Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) is seeking a highly motivated, detail-oriented environmental professional to join our Watershed Conservation Team. The successful candidate will support all aspects of HVA’s watershed conservation projects in Berkshire County (MA) and Columbia County (NY) which include (but are not limited to) environmental monitoring, regional road-stream crossing assessment and replacement planning, watershed management planning, stream corridor restoration, stormwater management, GIS mapping and analysis and environmental education for youth and adults. This position is based out of HVA’s office in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

Duties:
Reporting to the Berkshire Watershed Manager, this position is responsible for the following:
- Conducting field work in Berkshire County (MA) and Columbia County (NY), including but not limited to stream geomorphology, water quality, highway infrastructure and habitat assessments
- Preparing technical reports and maps
- Assisting in the development of management plans to restore/protect water resources, including stakeholder engagement and project identification, prioritization and development
- Conducting education and outreach programs (including assisting with paddle trips and delivering education programs to youth and adults)
- Training and managing seasonal staff and volunteers
- Assisting with writing and managing grants to support HVA projects and programs, building and maintaining partnerships, land use proposal reviews and restoration project management and maintenance

Required Experience/Qualifications:
- Enthusiasm and passion for conservation work and HVA’s Mission
- Bachelor’s degree in natural resource management, environmental studies or related field
- Ability to follow established field data collection and data management protocols
- Demonstrated ability to plan, perform and lead conservation projects
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to work outside for extended periods of time under inclement conditions
- Organized and able to balance multiple projects
- Clean driving record and daily access to a personal vehicle
- Practical knowledge of ArcGIS and field data collection using GPS and other technology

Desired Qualifications:
- Experience with a variety of environmental monitoring and assessment techniques
- Grant writing and/or grant management experience
- Experience working with municipal government on natural resource/environmental issues
- Experience with land conservation and stewardship practices

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**Time and Compensation:**
Full-time (40 hours/week); compensation commensurate with experience.

**To Apply:**
Applicants should submit the following:

1. **COVER LETTER** explaining your interest and qualifications
2. **RESUME**
3. **THREE (3) PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES**
4. **(Optional but encouraged)** Examples of past projects relevant to HVA’s mission (please limit to 1-2 pages/project, max of three projects)

Materials should be emailed to Alison Dixon, Berkshire Watershed Conservation Manager (adixon@hvatoday.org) and Mike Jastremski, Watershed Conservation Director (MJ.HVA@outlook.com). Position will remain open until filled. We expect to conduct a first round of interviews in early March.

**About HVA:**
HVA is the watershed conservation organization and accredited land trust whose mission is to protect the natural character and environmental health of the Housatonic River watershed for this and future generations. The Housatonic River watershed covers nearly 2,000 square miles across western Massachusetts, western Connecticut, eastern New York, and ultimately drains to Long Island Sound. Since our founding over 75 years ago, we have worked closely and effectively with local, regional, statewide and national partners throughout our service area to restore and protect lands and waters for the benefit of watershed communities.