

SOIL & WATER NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The Soil & Water Natural Resource Conservationist works as a member of an interdisciplinary team responsible for the administration and implementation of the Broome County Soil and Water Conservation District programming. The employee will be performing a variety of technical duties related to the establishment of conservation practices concerning the land and water on both public and private properties. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Soil and Water Conservation District Manager. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Implements agricultural and environmental management and planning programs involving data collection and the development of Best Management Practice recommendations;

Prepares natural resource conservation plans for public and private properties including: stormwater management and erosion and sediment control plans, nutrient management plans, manure management plans, prescribed grazing management plans, etc. as required;

Provides technical assistance to landowners, groups and units of local government including surveys, reducing and plotting survey notes, engineering designs, cost estimate, layout, implementation and construction inspection of all soil and water conservation practices;

Provides technical assistance to communities with regard to addressing natural resource concerns and in developing and implementing local legislation, rules and regulations to monitor and protect natural resources;

Plans, coordinates, and advocates for compliance with local, state, and federal permitting regulations;

Prepares permit applications as required;

Analyzes and makes recommendations on potential land use projects and programs as they relate to soil, water, and other natural resources and assists Soil & Water Conservation District Manager with new program development;

Identifies potential funding sources, assists and develops grant proposals and performs activities required for the initiation and implementation of water quality and other grant programs and projects, including progress reports, as required by the Soil & Water Conservation District Manager;

Administers and implements the existing Water Quality Incentive Program (WQIP) for hydroseeding of critical areas in Broome County for municipalities, school districts, and with related entities

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Has responsibility for transport, calibration, operation, and maintenance of all district equipment;
Attends functions and meetings, serves on committees on behalf of the Soil and Water Conservation District, and interacts with other natural resource organizations, agencies, and at activities in Broome County or the region, to facilitate cooperation between local, state and federal agencies;
Presents information/education programs related to natural resource conservation and other public outreach activities and programs as assigned;
Assists with SWCD programs such as, the Seedling Program, Pond Stock Programs and Soil Group Worksheets;
Prepares and submit board and work reports as required and keep daily time logs.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the principles and practices of natural resource conservation and Best Management Practices for erosion control, water quality, agriculture and related conservation practices;
Good organization and time management skills;
Good mechanical aptitude, manual dexterity and accuracy.
Good knowledge and experience in the use of computers and word processing;
Ability to interpret maps, charts and graphs; ability to compile data and prepare reports;
Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
Ability to deal with the public and to represent conservation programs to interested parties;
Ability to assist in training other district staff;
Ability to work closely with other government agencies;
Ability to work outside in inclement weather and be able to lift up to 50 lbs. repeatedly over the course of the work day;
Ability to think creatively, work independently and responsibly;
Dependability.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's degree or higher in Natural Resource Conservation, Agricultural Science, Environment Science, Engineering, or

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closely related field and one (1) year of experience in natural resource conservation, agriculture, construction, environmental management, engineering, or related field; OR

B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's degree in Natural Resource Conservation, Agricultural Technology, Construction Technology, Environmental Science, Engineering or closely related field and three (3) years of experience in natural resource conservation, agriculture, construction, environmental management, engineering or closely related field; OR

C) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A) and B) above.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a valid license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of New York will be required at time of appointment and maintain same while in the title.