



Volunteer Position Description: **Pennsylvania Seedling Coop**

Thank you so much for your interest in volunteering with the Alliance! Long term volunteer positions are invaluable in how they help accomplish work in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and we could not do it without you.

About the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Since 1971, we've brought together communities, companies, and conservationists to improve our lands and waters. We strive for clean streams and rivers flowing through resilient landscapes, cared for by the people who live, work, and play in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Our shared goal is to build resiliency among our communities and landscapes to continually adapt to a changing world.

Position description:

A **Pennsylvania Seedling Coop (PA SCoop)** volunteer is a long-term volunteer that plants, germinates, grows, and fosters seedlings that are destined to be planted in a reforestation project (typically a riparian forest buffer). The goals of the PA SCoop program are to increase public education and engagement at all levels of reforestation efforts in PA by involving volunteers, in addition to increasing the availability and variety of seedling stock for use in reforestation plantings.

Specific Duties of the Position:

- Plant, germinate, grow, and care for native tree and shrub species that are identified as needed by the Alliance. Activities can include watering, weeding, pest management, and more.
- Communicate regularly with Alliance staff to update and ensure growing success and support plans for future reforestation plantings.

Qualifications:

- Passion for trees and forests, growing plants, improved watersheds, and natural land management. Knowledge of native plants is a plus (although you can expect to gain a lot along the way!).
- Reliable in caring for plants daily in a variety of seasons and makes proper care arrangements when away from the seedlings.
- Able to bend, stoop, kneel, dig, and do some minor lifting. Plant care requires digging, weeding, watering, pest management, and organization. Most of the physicality required of this role is considered mild to medium.
- Has space, watering devices, and the tools to host seedlings.
- Is organized in tracking seedling progress and needs and species breakdown and success.
- Is prepared to be outside in various weather conditions and elements at their own discretion.
- Uses report forms and email to communicate work with the Alliance.
- Has attended a PA Seedling Coop training, signed a release and volunteer agreement.



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Benefits of participation: In this role, volunteers will have the opportunity to learn more about forestry, engagement efforts, native plant knowledge, plant care, and more. Volunteers are actively encouraged to develop new skills in ways that are relevant to their interests. Volunteers will be a key part of local conservation efforts and have the chance to get to know like-minded people and be an active part of the south central PA conservation volunteering community. Work with SCoop can be credited towards other volunteer programs (e.g. Master Watershed Stewards) or service hour program requirements.

Supervision: SCoop volunteers report directly to the Pennsylvania Forests Projects Manager.

Hours and Location: SCoop volunteers should be based in south-central Pennsylvania. Work is all done at their nursery site and on the volunteer's own schedule. Caring for seedlings can require daily attention depending on weather conditions. Specific time commitment can vary depending on roles and involvement with this program.