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Visit our website at: allianceforthebay.org*

Position Announcement: **Forests Projects Associate**

About the Alliance:

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance) is a regional nonprofit organization whose vision is clean streams and rivers flowing through resilient landscapes, cared for by the people who live, work, and play in the Chesapeake Bay watershed; and whose mission is to bring together communities, companies, and conservationists to improve our lands and waters. The Alliance was founded in 1971 and has offices in Annapolis, MD, Lancaster, PA, Washington, D.C., and Richmond, VA.

Job Description:

This Virginia-based position will work directly with farmers and rural landowners on a wide range of woodland and water quality improvement projects, focusing on forestry best management practices, community engagement, riparian and upland reforestation, and other related initiatives. The ideal location for this position will be in Augusta, Highland, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Page, Warren, or Frederick counties. However, strong candidates located in surrounding counties will be considered. The Forests Projects Associate is a fast-paced, full-time position working under the supervision of the Senior Agriculture Projects Manager to help advance the Alliance's Forestry Program in Virginia and throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

This position has a strong focus on outreach to farmers and private landowners. Substantial fieldwork is necessary, so field-savviness is integral to this position.

This position has a 18-month term with the opportunity to transition to a permanent role based on funding availability and performance.

Specific Duties of the Position:

- Support the coordination, planning, and implementation of forestry conservation practices on rural lands in Virginia, which includes:
 - Conducting landowner outreach to priority landowners of Alliance corporate and community partnerships with a focus on beef and dairy farms in the Shenandoah Valley and woodlot owners throughout the Valley and Western Highlands.
 - Provide direct on-site support as needed, which varies from week to week, but is particularly high during the Spring (March-May) and fall planting seasons (late October-December).
 - Develop and maintain relationships with landowners, forestry consultants, contractors, federal and state agencies, corporate partners, conservation districts, and other industry stakeholders through site visits and meetings as needed.
 - Conduct field monitoring work, including forest stand and buffer checks, as needed.
 - Helps ensure project deliverables are met by providing field inspections and site visits.
- Support the Alliance's overall Forests Program strategic efforts by:
 - Providing event support, meeting coordination, and other administrative assistance with appropriate oversight, such as programmatic and financial reporting.
 - Support corporate partners' strategy and planning.
 - Contribute to the Alliance's various Forestry Program team efforts.

Minimum Qualifications & Experience:

- 1+ years of professional experience (which may include internships) conducting outreach to and/or working with farmers or landowners on forestry best management practices. An advanced degree may be substituted for this professional experience qualification.
- Plant identification experience, preferably native and invasive plants of the mid-Atlantic
- Detail-oriented, organized, and able to manage multiple tasks and requests.
- Effective communication and public speaking skills.
- Ability to work successfully remotely and largely independently.

Supervision: The Associate will report directly to the Senior Agriculture Projects Manager

Hours and Location: The Forests Projects Associate is anticipated to be a full-time remote position. The ideal candidate will reside within the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia area in Augusta, Highland, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Page, Warren, or Frederick counties. Candidates located in surrounding counties will be considered. Some travel to the Richmond, VA, Office will be required occasionally for meetings, events, and team activities. Some night and weekend work may be required. Travel throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed is needed at times. The position is full-time (40 hours per week).

Salary: \$45,000 - \$50,500, commensurate with experience. Competitive benefits include: health, dental, and vision insurance, 403b retirement fund, life insurance, professional development opportunities, vacation, sick, and holiday and other leave, and more. The salary listed is an annual rate. This position has a 18-month term with the opportunity to transition to a permanent role based on funding availability and performance.

Application: The information listed below should be emailed to Careers@allianceforthebay.org no later than **October 5th**. Indicate "Forests Projects Associate" in the email subject line. No telephone inquiries please.

- Your resume
- A written response (2 pages total, max) to the following prompts:
 1. What excites you most about this position?
 2. What is your experience working in the field of Forestry, specifically in Virginia? *If you have not worked in Virginia, please describe why you believe your professional forestry experience is transferable to this particular region.*
 3. What strategies will you use to learn and manage multiple complex conservation projects?
- A list of 3 professional references.