

Soil and Water Conservation District Summer Intern Position

2019 Position Description

3 positions are available, 1 each in Mahaska, Marion, and Wapello Counties

Duration: 10-12 weeks, 40 hours per week

Locations available (may apply for more than one location):

- Knoxville, Iowa (Marion County)
- Oskaloosa, Iowa (Mahaska County)
- Ottumwa, Iowa (Wapello County)

Pay: \$10.00 per hour

Qualifications: Open to any students currently enrolled in college or recent graduate majoring in a field of study related to agriculture, conservation, engineering, construction trades, GIS, communications, public relations, urban planning, or environmental sciences.

Duties: The Intern will assist the local Soil and Water Conservation District* and Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality Mines and Minerals Bureau** with duties including, but not limited to:

- Working with local landowners and partners to develop interest in and commitment to implementation of conservation programs and activities
- Field site visits and data collection to document Abandoned Mine Land (AML) coal mine sites
- Work with AML landowners to complete consent of entry and questionnaire forms
- Develop news article(s) to increase awareness of AML and related reclamation projects
- Water quality monitoring through the collection of water quality samples
- Soil health assessment and testing through observation and soil sampling
- Use of GPS and GIS training to document findings
- Assist field office staff with the development of conservation plans and implementation of conservation practices such as terraces, filter strips, water and sediment control basins, grassed waterways, conservation cover seedings, etc.

Work environment: This position includes both office and field work. Successful candidates will work as part of a local team as well as independently, be able to traverse rough terrain on foot, spend time outdoors in the summer months, be able to work with the public including landowners and customers, use GPS/GIS tools, work in extreme temperature or inclement weather as required, work around large equipment, and complete work in a timely manner. **A valid driver's license is required.**

Reporting: The Intern will report to the District Conservationist on a day-to-day basis. In addition, the Intern will file progress reports with the Soil and Water Conservation District and Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality. A background check of the student will be required.

The student Intern will also make a formal presentation at the end of their internship to report on their experience and work completed over the summer. The student is expected to coordinate the planning of this meeting and present findings to interested conservation partners.

Deadline to apply:

Applications must be **received (not postmarked) by 12:00 noon on Friday, March 8th, 2019**

Application Process:

1. Request a copy of the SWCD Summer Intern Job Application by calling Pathfinders RC&D at 641-472-6177 or email info@pathfindersrcd.org or download at www.Pathfindersrcd.org (available for download mid-February)
2. **Mail OR email** the completed application (which includes application form, cover letter and resume) to:

**Summer Intern Position
Pathfinders RC&D
304 South Maple
Fairfield, IA 52556**

info@pathfindersrcd.org

**To learn more about the role of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Iowa visit <http://www.cdiowa.org/>*

***To learn more about Abandoned Mine Land sites in Iowa visit <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/minesAndMinerals/abandonedMinedLandReclamation.asp>*

For more information about a specific position, contact:

- Knoxville, Iowa (Marion County) – Holly Giombi, District Conservationist, 641-842-5314
- Oskaloosa, Iowa (Mahaska County) – Kevin Funni, District Conservationist, 641-673-3476, Ext. 3
- Ottumwa, Iowa (Wapello County) – Benjamin Cottrell, District Conservationist, 641-682-0752