

Job Announcement

Conservation District Technician

Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District
417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527

Statement of Duties: The Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District has a job opening for a Conservation District Technician. This is technical position involving field work that can include the survey, design and implementation of agricultural and non-agricultural conservation projects, water quality sampling, watershed inspections, invasive species control, site plan reviews, erosion and sediment control recommendations, and more on both public and private lands. Field work is a requirement of this position and the selected candidate will be expected to work independently and have responsibility for certain programs.

Starting salary & benefits: \$35,000 starting salary but is negotiable based on skills and experience. Additional benefits include vacation and sick leave, health insurance and participation in the New York State Retirement System.

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from senior high school or high school equivalency; and

A) Successfully completing a minimum of 40 credit hours from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college in Applied Science, Natural Resources Conservation, Agronomy, Agricultural Science, Biology or closely related field; or

B) Two years' experience in the survey, design and application of conservation practices.

Application: Applications can be submitted online or mailed to:

Yates County Personnel Officer
417 Liberty Street
Penn Yan, NY 14527

Visit <https://mycivilservice.yatescounty.org/jobopps> for more information on the position.

The first review of applications is March 17, 2017.

Questions regarding this job announcement can be directed to James Balyszak, District Manager at 315-536-5188. Applicants are encouraged to carefully read the Civil Service title description and document all skills, knowledge and experience related to the features of the class and typical work activities.

This position is provisional and will be made permanent dependent on the selected candidate scoring in the top three of the NYS Civil Service examination for Conservation District Technician.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

This is technical work involving responsibility for assisting in field surveys, design and supervision of conservation projects to protect the soil and water resources on public and private properties. Employees in this class are expected to assist directly in district programs related to the conservation of soil and water resources. Field work is a requirement of this position and duties increase in difficulty and responsibility as the employee's professional development increases. This individual will be expected to work independently and have responsibility for certain programs. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Conservation District Field Manager with wide leeway allowed for the exercise of independent judgement in carrying out the details of the work. Performs other duties as assigned.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Provide technical assistance to landowners, contractors and municipal officials including the evaluation, survey, design, cost estimates, layout and construction of soil and water conservation practices;
Collect data and prepare surveys, maps and specifications concerning potential conservation practices;
Develop conservation farm plans for agricultural producers;
Survey, design and layout of various agricultural and non-agricultural conservation projects;
Perform stormwater inspections;
Review site plans for proper erosion control and stormwater practices;
Perform watershed inspections;
Operate and maintain a hydroseeder, bale mulcher and other field equipment;
Collect water samples and assist with invasive species control;
Complete soil group worksheets for the agricultural value assessment program;
Assist with educational programs;
Prepare reports and maintain records;
Utilize a geographic information system (GIS) for conservation planning;
Attend training programs and obtain certifications;
Performs other duties as assigned.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Working knowledge of conservation practices and application skills;
Ability to learn and utilize geographic information system (GIS) software;
Ability to interpret engineer designs, mapped information and aerial images;
Ability to obtain national, state or local certifications as needed to implement programs;
Good math skills;
Good written and oral communication skills;
Ability to interact positively and professionally with co-workers, co-operating agencies and the public;
Ability to understand and carry out written and oral instructions;
Work independently;
Manual dexterity and mechanical aptitude;
Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position;
Maintain a valid NYS Driver's License

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from senior high school or high school equivalency; and

- a) Successfully completing a minimum of 40 credit hours from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college in Applied Science, Natural Resources Conservation, Agronomy, Agricultural Science, Biology or closely related field; or
- b) Two years' experience in survey, design and application of conservation practices.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT AND CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT:

Possession of a valid NYS Driver's License throughout duration of employment.