



## **Alpena-Montmorency Conservation District**

### ***Bovine TB Biosecurity Technician***

### **Position Description**

The *Bovine TB Biosecurity Technician* will provide livestock producers with educational, technical, and financial assistance to help reduce the risks of Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) spreading from wildlife to livestock in the northeast Lower Peninsula of Michigan.

This is a grant-funded position that is renewed annually. Wage will be commensurate with candidate's experience and education and will include a benefit contribution. Applicant must have a valid driver's license, a functional vehicle (mileage reimbursement provided), and must pass a background check. More information can be found on our website at [www.alpenamontcd.org](http://www.alpenamontcd.org).

The Alpena-Montmorency Conservation District will be the employer of record for this position and will handle payroll and accompanying paperwork. Day to day, administrative supervision will be provided by the AMCD District Manager and under the guidance of the AMCD Board of Directors, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), and with direction from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The primary office space for the Bovine TB position is located at the Alpena Field office. Time will be allocated among Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, Oscoda, and Presque Isle Counties; with other TB prevalent counties as they appear. This position is primarily a field position with a strong understanding of cost share funds.

Send professional resume, cover letter, and three references to AMCD, 1900 M-32 West, Alpena, MI 49707 or [Aprille.williamson@macd.org](mailto:Aprille.williamson@macd.org)

#### **Qualifications:**

- Knowledge of wildlife and livestock feeding and travel behaviors, Bovine Tuberculosis, and conservation principles of disease control.
- Ability to determine risks and select or adapt solutions to resource concerns.
- Ability to use ArcMap software.
- Knowledge of livestock farming practices and how a conservation plan and practices can mitigate risk.
- Ability to work effectively with co-workers and the general public.
- Ability to apply training.
- Knowledge and skill in written and oral communication techniques and public relations, sufficient to explain technical specifications for various projects and programs to individual landowners, various agencies, local sponsoring organizations, and other conservation partners.
- Ability to interpret data, plan stages of work, and select the most practical solution to address the problem.
- Applicant must possess four-year agriculture, wildlife, or natural resources related degree from an accredited college or university.

### **Routine Duties:**

- Visit cattle farms and monitor the effectiveness of risk mitigation practices in place to prevent transmission of TB from deer to cattle.
- Participate in team assessments of high risk cattle farms and provide recommendations for risk reduction.
- Work with landowners to plan and design projects that reduce deer access to cattle and feed storage areas.
- Inspect completed projects and follow up with compliance issues.
- Collaborate with partner agencies to develop and implement conservation plans and install conservation practices on-farm.
- Facilitate access to additional technical and financial assistance through application to federal and state private lands conservation programs.
- Disseminate program information to producers through individual and group meetings, presentations, and promotional activities.
- Perform program advocacy with agency and industry stakeholders and affected livestock producers.
- Utilize available resources to complete work.
- Partner agency and organization staff expertise and training, including the USDA NRCS, MDARD, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services, and Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
- Access and use policies and procedures as outlined in NRCS Standards and Specifications, Field Office Technical Guide, and the latest Technical Releases.
- Monitor program progress.
- Complete and submit required quarterly reporting for all agencies.

### **Scope of Work**

The *Technician's* work involves treating a variety of conventional agricultural problems, questions, or situations (relating to the planning, design, and installation of conservation practices), in accordance with NRCS guidelines and with the purpose of reducing the spread of TB from wildlife to livestock.

### **Working Environment**

Work requires personal contact with co-workers, construction contractors, landowners, and operators for the purpose of exchanging information, providing consultative services and obtaining experience in relating conservation practices to conservation programs.

The normal work hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Some flexibility to accommodate producer schedules may be required. The employee frequently will make field visits that may involve walking on rough terrain, carrying equipment or climbing steep banks during all weather conditions. Contact with livestock animals is common. The position requires average agility and dexterity during field visits. Protective gear and clothing such as hard hat, boots and gloves may be necessary during field visits.

*A performance evaluation will be conducted annually.*

*Continuing education needs and opportunities will be considered as applicable.*

**We are an equal opportunity employer and program provider**