



Now Hiring

Seasonal Invasive Species Technician



North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (NCCISMA) is seeking a Seasonal Invasive Species Technician to perform botanical surveys and invasive species control activities over a six county area of Michigan, including Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Osceola, and Wexford.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist in administering NCCISMA's Cost-Share Program including assessing infestations, calculating costs, assisting property owners with completing application forms, and presenting related applicator service agreements per Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) requirements
- Perform chemical and mechanical invasive species control methods to fulfill Cost-share treatment obligations. This may include applying herbicides using various techniques including cut-stump and foliar spray (using hand and backpack sprayers), and hand-pulling, brush cutting, and other physical methods of removal (using shovels, hand saws, clearing saw, etc.)
- Act as back-up field crew lead and, when needed, assist field crew in performing invasive species management activities in the field using mechanical and chemical methods
- Conduct botanical surveys and monitor treatment sites, which will require the recording of field data using datasheets, GPS units, hand-drawn field maps, and the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN) phone app or website
- Conduct invasive species surveys in parks and along trails; terrestrial surveys by foot and aquatic surveys by kayak/canoe
- Visit with property owners to assess their property for invasive species, assist with plant identification, and make management recommendations
- Promote NCCISMA landowner assistance programs through personal contact during site visits, by phone/email as survey follow-up, and through participation in outreach events
- Help to administer volunteer workdays, and invasive species management workshops
- Assist with inventory and management of field crew supplies
- Data entry into the online MISIN Treatment Tracking geo-database

Skills and Eligibility Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in botany, conservation biology, ecology, environmental science, or a related field
- Experience in natural resource management, preferably in invasive species management
- Certified Commercial Pesticide Applicator in the Core and categories of Right-of-Way, Aquatics, and Ornamentals; otherwise must be willing and able to study for and pass exams for certification in these categories within the first month of employment - study materials will be provided
- Experience identifying Michigan native and invasive plant species; otherwise need ability to quickly employ taxonomic keys to identify plants
- Experience working with handheld gardening equipment and herbicides to manage invasive plants; experience safely mixing, storing, and applying herbicides preferred

- Must exhibit strong verbal and written communication skills when working with any and all demographic groups
- Must hold a valid driver's license, have a good driving record, and a reliable vehicle
- Must be proven effective team player, with evidence of project management skills
- Must be able and comfortable to work independently outdoors in remote areas and on office projects
- Must be reliable, have a history of strong organizational skills and an exceptional work ethic
- Must be proficient in the use of Microsoft Office Suite programs
- Experience with ArcMap, or similar GIS software preferred

Terms and Benefits:

- Pay Rate: \$15 - \$17 per hour, commensurate with experience
- Primary duty location in Cadillac; will be required to occasionally report to Scottville or Paris
- This is a full-time seasonal position, working 40 hours per week for up to 24 weeks
- Preferred start date is May 6th
- Some travel using personal vehicle will be required, with mileage reimbursed at the federal rate
- Benefits include paid federal holidays and vacation/sick-leave

Other Considerations:

- Field work will take place in all weather conditions, and will likely involve contact with stinging insects and hazardous plants
- Must be comfortable mixing and applying chemical herbicides
- Must be able to carry a 25lb backpack sprayer across uneven or saturated terrain
- Must be able to work flexible hours; work days are generally 8 hour days, with occasional evenings or weekends required
- Must be willing to travel across a six-county area as needed to complete work assignments
- Use of personal smartphone is required

To apply:

Submit a cover letter, resume, college transcripts (unofficial are acceptable), and 3 references to Vicki Sawicki, NCCISMA Program Coordinator, at vicki.sawicki@macd.org. Please contact NCCISMA with any questions by email at vicki.sawicki@macd.org or by phone at (231) 429-5072.

**Please submit your application materials no later than
Monday, March 18, 2019**

*This project is funded by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program
(www.michigan.gov/invasives)*

North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (NCCISMA) and its fiduciary, Mason-Lake Conservation District, are Equal Opportunity Employers