OUTREACH NOTICE

Forestry Technician
(Recreation Technician)

GS-0462-5

The Shawnee National Forest will soon be advertising a GS-0462-5 Recreation Technician position. The position is a permanent full-time appointment, and will be located in Vienna, IL. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this opportunity.

For additional details on the position, you may call Monica Neal at (618) 253-1001.

This position will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at www.usajobs.gov.

Anyone interested is encouraged to complete the attached Outreach Response Form. You will still need to apply for the job separately.
Please reply to this outreach by November 7, 2012
**Recreation Technician Position:**

The position provides recreation support and serves as a Recreation Technician, working predominately in developed & dispersed recreation management. The primary duties include the operations and maintenance of developed recreation areas, such as campground, picnic areas, and trailheads; in addition, dispersed campsites in wilderness and non-wilderness areas. The position will serve as a Collection Officer, Chainsaw Operator (minimum qualification Class A), and a Forest Protection Officer with responsibility in enforcement of laws and regulations associated with forest and recreation use. The position serves as an inspector for recreation permits, which may include concession operations, outfitter/guide permits, and recreation events.

During the off-season, the incumbent may continue working independently, or with other employees, on resource protection/inventory/survey and data entry projects. The incumbent has responsibility for maintaining district recreation equipment and facilities, and has some administrative duties such as timekeeping, travel, seasonal employee work scheduling, and developing employee training plans and orientation.

The incumbent will perform safety hazard analyses of public recreation use areas, and takes, or recommends, corrective action.

In wilderness areas, the incumbent will ensure areas are operated, used, and maintained in accordance with the Forest Service Wilderness Policy.

The incumbent will provide detailed information about recreation opportunities to Forest visitors, and explains Forest Service rules and regulations, including information on resource management practices and current conditions.

The incumbent may be assigned to other resource management duties, including fire management, as skill level, conditions and funding warrant. The incumbent may be assigned duties in trail maintenance and construction projects. During the height of the recreation season, April – October, the incumbent will work on weekends, including holidays, on a rotating schedule with other recreation staff.

The selected individual will be subjected to a background investigation conducted by the Department of Homeland Security.

**Description of the Forest:**

The Shawnee National Forest includes about 280,000 acres of National Forest System land and is the single largest publicly owned body of land in the State of Illinois. Within those lands, one can find the following:

- Seven Congressionally-designated Wilderness Areas (about 10% of the Forest)
- Six candidate Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Four National Natural Landmarks
- Four heritage resource sites on the National Register of Historic Places
- Two National Scenic Byways (NSB)
  - Great River Road NSB, extending along the Mississippi River
  - Ohio River NSB, along the Ohio, where it begins in Pennsylvania, traveling to Cairo, Illinois, where the Ohio meets the mighty Mississippi
- 80 designated Natural Areas considered important for botanical, ecological, geological or zoological reasons (about 5% of the Forest). Ten of these natural areas are designated by the Forest Service as Research Natural Areas (9 ecological areas and 1 botanical area) to focus research on these high value ecological sites.
  - 56 ecological areas
  - 14 botanical areas
  - 3 geological areas
  - 14 zoological areas

The Supervisor’s Office is located in Harrisburg with a Ranger Station in Vienna and a Work Center in Jonesboro. The Forest sits at the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and is rich in history, reflecting the pioneer movement of Americans into the west. The Forest is predominantly oak-hickory, although pine was planted in many areas in the past. Swamps contain tupelo and cypress communities. Razorback ridges associated with the Ozark upthrust are found on the west side of the Forest; the broader ridges associated with the Shawnee hills are found on the east side of the Forest. The Wisconsin glacier stopped north of the Shawnee, so the Grand Prairie (and its corn fields) most associated with the state of Illinois starts 40 miles north of the Forest.

The Forest is within a day's drive (350 miles) of more than 45 million people, or 17% of the U.S. population. (U.S. Census Bureau, 7-1-97 estimate) Additional information about the Forest may be found at the Shawnee National Forest website.

**Climate:**

One can experience all four seasons in the southern Illinois region with an average of 3” of snow per year and temperatures rarely below 0 degrees. Summer days are sunny and humid with highs in the 80’s – 90’s, occasionally topping 100. Spring weather can occur in March, and fall weather can extend into November. During the spring and fall seasons, the climate and beauty of the area is especially compelling. Spring brings an abundance of blooming dogwoods, redbuds and wildflowers. The fall is saturated with color, as the leaves turn brilliant reds, gold and yellows. Garden of the Gods, the most visited site on the Forest, is a must-see during the fall color season. The unusual rock formations, coupled with the surrounding Garden of the Gods Wilderness, portray the beauty of southern Illinois at its finest.

**Education:**

Pre-schools through high schools can be found in most communities and rank high in the state. There are several community colleges in the area offering quite reasonable in-district tuition. Southern Illinois University, located in Carbondale, IL, offers a full range of baccalaureate through doctoral programs. Day care facilities also are available in most communities.
Churches:

Churches representing all major denominations can be found in communities across the region.

Economy:

Real estate in the area is moderately priced. The median price for purchasing a home is approximately $120,000, and house rentals begin at approximately $450 per month. Utilities are also priced moderately. Tourism is a developing economic force in the area. In recent years, several wineries have opened, offering two outstanding wine trails.

With a mix of communities and towns, varying in population, Southern Illinois offers a rural environment with easy access to all possible amenities. Both shopping and entertainment opportunities are abundant within the area. Marion and Carbondale, IL along with Paducah, KY, offer shopping malls, movie theaters and several locally owned and operated restaurants along with major chain and fast-food restaurants. Additional information on local employment opportunities can be found at the following links:

Harrisburg, IL - Companies and Businesses
Marion, IL - Companies and Businesses

Healthcare:

Healthcare facilities serving the area include full facility Harrisburg Medical Center (Hospital), Carbondale Doctor’s Memorial Hospital and Marion Memorial Hospital. Services at these hospitals include cardiac units, oncology and neonatal units. Other hospitals providing care are Lourdes and Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah, KY and Deaconess in Evansville, IN. All the hospitals provide 24-hour emergency room physician coverage and specialists.

Recreational and Cultural Activities:

Whether you’re a barbecue fan, blues lover, outdoor recreational enthusiast, lover of small town life or big city adventurer, southern Illinois truly provides something for everyone in terms of social engagement opportunities and overall choice of recreational and cultural type activities.

With the perfect mix of small to mid-sized towns across the region coupled with easy access to bigger cities, including St. Louis, MO (located about 2 hours from Harrisburg, IL), Nashville, TN (located about 2.5 hours from Harrisburg, IL) and Chicago, IL (located about 6 hours from Harrisburg, IL), residents will find the ability to immerse themselves in the rich cultural and natural heritage encompassed in the area while also being able to easily travel and explore larger metropolitan areas nearby.

Festivals, fairs, artisan type craft events and more abound annually, and from more traditional American fare to Cuban, Thai, Japanese and more, a variety of restaurants representing global cuisine choices can be found across the region. Other opportunities, including concerts, theater engagements, etc, can also be discovered at a variety of events and locations, offering easy access to diverse recreational and cultural activities while also offering a beautiful, predominantly agricultural based area to call home.
To learn more about the area, please visit the following:

**Marion, IL Chamber of Commerce**

**Saline County, IL Chamber of Commerce**

**Saline County, IL Tourism**

**Southernmost Illinois Tourism Bureau**

**Williamson County, IL Tourism Bureau**

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**Non-Discrimination Statement**

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to:

USDA  
Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410  
Washington, DC 20250-9410

Or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
**Outreach Response Form**

If you are interested in these positions, be sure to respond to this outreach **November 7, 2012** in one of three ways:

E-mail: monicaneal@fs.fed.us  
Fax: (618) 253-1063  
Mail: Monica Neal  
Shawnee National Forest  
50 Hwy 145 S  
Harrisburg, IL 62946  
(618) 253-1001

For additional details on the position, you may call Monica at (618) 253-1001 or Brian Bourne at (618) 658-2111.

By completing this form, you are indicating that you are interested in the following position:

- **Forestry Technician (Recreation Technician) GS-0462-5**

Location:
- **Region 9, Shawnee National Forest, Hidden Springs/Mississippi Bluffs Ranger Districts, Vienna, Illinois**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

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Are you currently a federal employee

If Yes, current agency and location

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Type of Appointment if Current Government Employee

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Type of Schedule if Government Employee

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<th>Full-time</th>
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If you are not a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities (check the appropriate box):

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<td>Student Career Experience Program</td>
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