Staff Forester (Job Id 3251)

Location: Pierre

Post Date: 06/06/2014

Category: Agriculture

Close Date: 07/04/2014

Description

PLEASE ATTACH THE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS LISTED AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

Agency: South Dakota Department of Agriculture; Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry

Salary/Grade: $18.60 per hour N16

This position will serve as a team leader for the service forestry team. This will be a statewide position, with responsibilities in guiding forest management work in the western conifer forest of the Black Hills, eastern hardwoods in eastern and central parts of the state, and agroforestry throughout the state.

The ability to communicate orally, in writing, and interpersonally while working with different agencies, organizations, and individuals, facilitate meetings, and complete projects on time are essential qualities.

The incumbent will be expected to work during normal working hours from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. during a normal work week of Monday - Friday. Some overtime will be required on an infrequent basis. Limited travel will be required and this position should expect to spend an average of two nights per month on the road; some months will not require any travel while other months will require more.; and there will be occasional field work and out-of-state travel.

A valid driver license is required.

A South Dakota pesticide applicators license or the ability to obtain one within six months of appointment is required.

The Ideal Candidate Will Have:

A bachelor's degree in forestry, agroforestry, or a closely related field; and three years of experience working with private landowners, writing and implementing forest management plans and prescriptions are preferred.

Knowledge of:

• landowner assistance programs that are available through local, state, and federal agencies;
• conifer and hardwood silviculture, as well as agroforestry principles and applications;
• forest inventory, products, utilization, and markets;
• forest certification and recognition programs;
• geographic information systems (GIS), global positioning systems (GPS), and geospatial data collection, maintenance, and retrieval;
• tools used for forest measurements;
• Microsoft Publisher and Office Professional Software;
• insects and diseases affecting trees and other woody plants;
• best management practices for protecting water quality during timber harvest;
• dendrology, forest ecology, inventory, forest pathology, forest entomology, fire effects;
• agroforestry, particularly as it relates to windbreak design for various applications and riparian buffers.

Skill to:

• retrieve, analyze, and interpret data and write reports;
• prepare presentations and coordinate workshops for landowners and natural resource professionals;
• successfully communicate orally, in writing, and interpersonally with co-workers, cooperators, and customers inside at outside of state government.

Ability to:

• understand and fulfill obligations as required under various grants and agreements;
• work with committees and facilitate committee meetings;
• prepare grant proposals and agreements to obtain and/or distribute funds for projects to fulfill our mission;
• be creative in program delivery;
• conduct literature and technical reference searches;
• conduct soil survey research;
• use and interpret topographic maps and orthophotos;
• use Microsoft Office products: Word, Outlook, Access, Excel, Publisher, PowerPoint;
• use digital graphic software, mapping programs, and collect, upload, download, and interpret GPS information;
• write professional and technical reports that can be understood by professionals and lay persons;
• communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
• review documents and offer constructive professional comments;
• work independently with minimal supervision, or with a group in a team setting;
• use forestry tools: clinometer, hypsometer, biltmore stick, measuring wheel, compass, GPS.

Additional Requirements: To be considered, attach your responses to the questions below. Your responses must be clear, concise, and numbered.

1. Describe your knowledge of or experience with forestry and agroforestry programs for private forest landowners and agricultural producers. Include federal, state, local, and non-governmental organization programs.
2. Describe your knowledge of or experience with designing windbreaks for different purposes.
3. Describe your knowledge of or experience with ponderosa pine and hardwood silviculture.
4. Describe your education or experience with diagnosing tree problems in urban and natural forest environments.
5. Describe your experience with gathering information and writing reports.
6. Employees in this position meet with private individuals, local city governments, federal agencies, the media and others to share or disseminate information. Describe your experience communicating, establishing working relationships and/or coordinating with various agencies, groups, individuals, or media.
7. Describe your experience in training or educating people about technical issues.
8. Describe your experience in writing grant proposals, administration of grants, implementation of grants, and fulfilling grant reporting requirements.
9. Describe your experience working with committees.

VETERANS’ PREFERENCE ELIGIBLE

Apply at: http://bhr.sd.gov/workforus
South Dakota Bureau of Human Resources
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Telephone: 605.773.3148 Fax: 605.773.4344
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