

# Wildlife Biologist

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Blue Water Conservation District (formerly the Sanilac & St. Clair Conservation Districts) is accepting applications for a Farm Bill Biologist position to provide technical assistance to agriculture producers and landowners in Lapeer, St. Clair & Sanilac Counties.

The Farm Bill Biologist position will provide program outreach, technical assistance and landowner recruitment for a wide variety of USDA Farm Bill programs with emphasis on the Pheasant Restoration Initiative. This position will be an employee of, and supervised by, the Blue Water Conservation District with daily interaction and leadership provided by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), State of MI and local partners. This is a grant funded position provided to the Blue Water Conservation District from the State of Michigan.

### Duties

- Provide technical assistance (wildlife biology focus) and guidance to private landowners, government agencies, non-government organizations, and others. (training will be provided by the USDA, State of Michigan, Pheasants Forever, and other local and partnering agencies).
- Coordinate meetings and develop a technical advisory committee for the success of the Pheasant Restoration Initiative and hunting.
- Community outreach to existing conservation / hunt clubs by giving presentations about conservation district services and programs.
- Coordinate the implementation and application of biological sciences within the conservation programs in cooperation with the NRCS District Conservationist, State of Michigan, Pheasants Forever, and other partners.
- Aid in the completion of applications, contracts, and other required documentation for USDA conservation program participation (i.e. CRP, WRP, WHIP, EQIP, GRP, etc.).
- Communicate program requirements, complete site visits to determine eligibility, and develop plans and contracts for applicants enrolling in USDA conservation programs or other state and local conservation programs.
- Develop promotional materials, identify boundaries and landowners, and host meetings to establish landowner cooperatives to promote and expand the Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative.
- Other conservation duties related to this positions success or as assigned by the District Manager.

### **Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agencies.
- Ability to work independently with diverse clientele.
- Knowledge of wildlife ecology, and wetland and grassland management, including the ability to utilize various habitat management tools in the development of management plans. (must possess knowledge in pheasant habitat and establishing pheasant habitat)
- Knowledge of conservation and wildlife programs provided by Federal agencies (i.e. Farm Bill, US Fish and Wildlife Service), State agencies, and Pheasants Forever. Knowledge of how these programs are implemented in an agricultural landscape is desired.
- Must have good knowledge in Microsoft office and other computer programs. Experience with GIS programs preferred.
- Valid driver's license required; work vehicle provided.
- Able to obtain USDA Federal Security Clearance.

### **Training and Experience Guideline**

A bachelor's degree; natural resources management, fisheries and wildlife, biology, or related field is preferred. A combination of education, training and experience that enable the applicant to possess the required knowledge, skills, and abilities will be considered.

### **Salary, Benefits, Work Hours, Location**

This is a salaried position with some flexible benefits (health savings account /retirement). Salary will be determined based on experience. Typical work hours will be Monday – Friday, 40 hours per week. Some night and weekend work may be required. The Blue Water Conservation District has two office locations: Sandusky, MI and Kimball Twp., MI (Port Huron). The Blue Water CD Board of Directors will choose a location for reporting to work based on the selected candidate's preferences.

### **To Apply**

Please submit cover letter (include salary requirements & preferred office reporting location), resume & references to Joe Kautz, District Manager by email to [joe.kautz@macd.org](mailto:joe.kautz@macd.org) by the close of business on Friday, June 30, 2017. Please contact Joe Kautz with any questions related to the position (e-mail preferred) or by calling (810) 648-2998 x5 or (810) 984 -3865 x5. To obtain further information about the Blue Water Conservation District visit our website at [www.SanilacCD.org](http://www.SanilacCD.org) .