



CONNECTICUT

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Title: Conservation Planner I

- 1 Position – Hamden NRCS Field Office, 51 Mill Pond Road, Hamden, CT 06514
- 1 Position – Norwich NRCS Field Office, 238 W Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360

Employer: Connecticut Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc. (CT RC&D)
1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT 06438

Employment Status: Full time/salary

Hours: 35 hours/week

Location: This position is a state-wide position and requires flexibility to be able to work out of several NRCS field office locations in Connecticut at various times for various durations on an as needed basis. The position will receive on-site supervision and training by NRCS staff (one position in Hamden and one position in Norwich). Administration will be located at the CT RC&D Office at 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT 06438.

Salary Range: \$39,000 - \$40,000 full time with benefit options including health insurance
(no relocation reimbursement)

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

The Conservation Planner I will work with farm managers, Conservation Districts, the Connecticut Department of Agricultural and the Natural Resources Conservation Service toward implementation of coordinated soil and water conservation planning and delivery of farm assistance programs in Connecticut. The position includes following tasks:

- Develop comprehensive conservation plans and provide technical assistance to farmers and forest landowners to assist them with conserving natural resources on their working agricultural lands.
- Develop and assist customers with implementation of conservation plans and associated practices contracted through various conservation programs. Conduct resource inventories and analyses to identify and evaluate soil, water, air, plant, livestock, wildlife, and energy issues.
- Develop schedules, articles, and reports as project updates for internal and public review.
- Perform related tasks to advance conservation and restoration efforts including outreach to landowners, conservation plan review, and conduction of environmental education events.
- Other duties as assigned.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Applicable degree and/or professional experience in: soil conservation or related agricultural or natural resource discipline such as agronomy, soil science, forestry, agricultural education, or agricultural engineering including 30 semester hours in a natural resource or agricultural field, including at least 12 semester hours in a combination of soils and crops or plant science.

Evaluation of Education:

- Of the 12 semester hours, a minimum of 3 semester hours must have been in soils and 3 semester hours in crops or plant science. Courses in soil fertility, soil chemistry, soil genesis, plant physiology, plant science, and field crops are examples of specialized courses that contribute towards meeting the required 12 semester hours as described above. Courses in the physical sciences or engineering such as geology, civil engineering, and hydrology also meet the soils, crops, or plant science course requirements where such courses included a complete introduction to the physical, chemical, and biological properties of soils.

Evaluation of Experience:

Experience that included the application of techniques, principles, and methods from a variety of agricultural and natural resource fields is appropriate, given the interdisciplinary character of the conservation planner position. For example, experience gained in a specialized field such as soil science, forestry, or agronomy is as fully acceptable as experience directly obtained in conservation work.

- Ability to produce work products using computers and software such as Adobe and Microsoft Office applications. Experience with geospatial mapping software is desirable.
- General knowledge of State & Federal agricultural conservation planning programs.
- Ability to work with others, individually and in groups.
- Skilled in organizational and administrative tasks, both oral and written communication.
- Knowledge of equal opportunity and civil rights requirements.
- Ability to operate a motor vehicle incident in carrying out assigned duties. The number of driving hours is dependent on the overall needs of this position. A valid driver's license is required.
- Ability to walk through uneven terrain on farms and forestland.

Certifications:

While employed in the position, incumbents must complete continuing education requirements provided by NRCS at no cost that will prepare them for obtaining the certifications listed below.

- Conservation Planner Certification, Category I

It is expected that the incumbent will obtain this certification within the period of employment, not to exceed 2 years.

Benefits package: Health Insurance contribution, SEP IRA 5% contribution, 403B plan, Flexible Spending Account, as well as vacation, sick and personal time, holidays, and flexible work schedule around daily core hours.

To Apply: Email cover letter detailing degree, course credit, experience and professional qualification and resume to Tara Cleary tcleary@ctrcd.org. Position open until filled.

CT RC&D is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our mission is best advanced by the leadership and contributions of people of diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and culture. We encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, military, protected veteran status or other status protected by law.