

Green Lake Sanitary District



Position Title: Watershed Outreach Coordinator Position Description

Job Posting Period: Feb. 1, 2022 – March 1, 2022

Reports To: Green Lake Sanitary District
Administrator/Board of Commissioners

Position Summary:

The Watershed Coordinator position is a permanent, tax revenue funded position with the Green Lake Sanitary District. This position is under the general supervision of the GLSD Administrator in partnership with the Green Lake and Fond du Lac Counties' Land and Water Conservation Departments. The Coordinator position will work exclusively within the Big Green Lake Watershed in both Green Lake and Fond du Lac Counties, WI. This is a critical position that will focus on outreach to farmers/producers, initial BMP planning/coordination, and providing information/education to agricultural producers/landowners within the watershed.

Duties/Responsibilities:

The following duties are normal for this position. These are not to be construed as exclusive or all-inclusive. Other duties related to the GLSD may be required as directed by the Administrator.

- “Boots on the ground” presence in the watershed to work with producers.
 - Utilizing various existing reports such as the Phosphorus Prioritization Field Guide for the Green Lake Watershed to determine priority landowners to partner with on new BMPs in the watershed.
 - Outreach to farmers/landowners that have not partnered with the GLSD or Counties' Land and Water Departments previously.
- Work with producers as they implement cover crops, high residue management, or other soft practices:
 - Track successes and challenges
 - Assist GLSD and other partner organizations in the organization, planning, and management of annual demonstration field days, ag focused workshops, and farmer appreciation events
- Communication of the project results and soil health initiatives through articles/newsletters, and/or blog posts, social media, & other channels.
- Engaging producers in the watershed about soil health concepts and agricultural best management practices as well as information and education to the general public regarding agricultural conservation & soil health happenings in the watershed.
- Work closely with partner organizations the Fond du Lac County Land and Water Conservation Department, Green Lake County Land and Water Conservation Department, and the Green Lake Association
- Deliver outreach to farmers and conservation professionals in the region to work toward increasing adoption of the Green Lake Watershed Soil Health Program including projects such as enhanced nutrient management, continuous cover crops, and continuous no-till
- Collaborate with the Lower Fox & the Upper Fox-Wolf Demonstration Farm Networks to ensure consistent messaging and share lessons learned

- Assisting landowners interested in developing Conservation Easements on their property for the protection of local water resources
- Any other outreach, education, or land and water conservation work as it relates to improving the water quality of Big Green Lake

Additionally, the outreach coordinator will work closely with the Fond du Lac County/Green Lake County Land and Water Conservation Departments on initial BMP design/planning.

- Creation of initial project drawings, mapping, survey work, and cost share agreement creation.
- Attending periodic workshops and staying informed on new practices, changes to BMP standards, etc.
- Promoting soil health initiatives watershed-wide

In addition to the watershed outreach and organizing soil health initiative events, field days, & educational opportunities, some secondary work that this position may entail includes:

- Contacting landowners to discuss soil erosion and water quality issues.
- Assist both Green Lake and FdL Counties with maintaining records of program participation utilizing database software
- Tracking conservation projects and practices utilizing county managed software such as ESRI ArcMap.

Desirable Knowledge and Abilities:

We are looking for an applicant with strong qualifications in utilizing outreach and education, ideally with some experience in or a working knowledge of water quality impacts in an agricultural landscape, and agriculture in general. The ideal candidate will:

- Be able to effectively communicate and engage with producers and landowners in the watershed to further the GLSD goal of significantly increasing BMPs within the watershed
- Have the ability to generate educational and promotional material
- Have an awareness of soil health practices and the ability to promote soil health practices
- Have experience/be proficient in writing articles, and/or blog posts, & social media posts. This content will be primarily focused on the work that has been, is currently, and will be done in Big Green Lake watershed.
- Be able to independently organize, promote, and manage field days, meetings, and events
- Feel comfortable facilitating peer to peer learning and farmer led initiatives
- Feel comfortable working with other conservation organizations and conservation professionals to join efforts
- Be able to create content raising awareness of existing farming resources or services by local, state, and federal organizations

Additional Duties

Additional duties may be required as assigned.

Work Direction Received:

General direction is received from the GLSD Administrator in partnership with Green Lake and Fond du Lac County Land and Water Department staff. Day-to-day work activities are performed independently.

Office Location:

The full scope of work will occur within the Big Green Lake watershed. However, due to the close working relationship of the position to the Green Lake and Fond du Lac County Land and Water Departments, the option exists for this position to work out of either the Green Lake County office in the City of Green Lake or the Fond du Lac County office in the City of Fond du Lac.

Supervision Exercised:

There is no supervisory responsibility.

Decision Making:

Decisions within area of responsibility are made independently with oversight by the GLSD Administrator in partnership with both the Green Lake and Fond du Lac County Conservationists.

Interaction:

The main role of this position is outreach into our local agriculture community. Significant interaction with landowners and producers in the watershed is required. Additionally, much interaction will occur between this position and local, county, state, and federal departments, agencies, and conservation organizations as needed to meet goals set forth by the GLSD Administrator and Board.

Training and Experience:

Candidates must have a degree from an accredited 2 or 4-year college, and/or relevant work experience that qualifies them for work in community outreach, education, event planning, and public relations. Highly desirable candidates will also have some experience or familiarity with land and water conservation departments, soil health initiatives, and knowledge of farming practices. Candidates must be able to effectively manage an education and outreach initiative, work positively with landowners, communicate soil health practices, explain program objectives, and interact effectively with the general public. Must have possession of a valid driver's license and have access to a vehicle to use in completion of duties required.

GLSD Employment:

- The Watershed Coordinator position is a permanent, tax revenue funded position with the Green Lake Sanitary District.
- Standard GLSD employment benefits such as competitive wage, vacation pay, as well as health insurance and retirement benefits with employer contributions.
- Evening and weekend work may be required periodically for meetings, workshops, etc.

In evaluating candidates for this position, the GLSD may consider a combination of education, training and experience which provides the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the duties of the position. For more information on the position, please contact the Green Lake Sanitary District, (920) 295-4488.

