



Employment Opportunity at the Leelanau Conservancy: Invasive Species Early Detection/Rapid Response Crew Member

Project Description:

The Leelanau Conservancy is a partner of the Michigan Dune Alliance which is a coalition dedicated to the conservation and restoration of Eastern Lake Michigan coastal ecosystems. As part of a landscape-scale management project, efforts continue to survey for, apply treatment to, and monitor invasive terrestrial plant populations along 400 miles of dune, wetland, and coastal forest ecosystems. The project targets a number of invasive species, ranging from well-established invaders like giant reed (*Phragmites australis*) to relative newcomers such as blue lyme grass (*Leymus arenarius*) and Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*). This job description is for 2 positions offered by the Leelanau Conservancy for the 2016 field season, running 20 weeks from early May to late September.

Essential Functions:

The Early Detection/Rapid Response (EDRR) crew will be comprised of two members that conduct surveys for a variety of targeted species on Conservancy, public, and private lands in Leelanau County. Crew members will then carry out treatment on documented populations using appropriate control methods. Following treatment, crew members will monitor treatment success and potential species spread. In addition to the tasks listed above, crew members will be responsible for assisting in developing species treatment plans, recording and communicating activities and outcomes, and managing the logistics of day-to-day operations over a large area and multiple work sites.

Qualifications:

- Experience in natural resource management field work and/or college course work in biological sciences, botany, or natural resources.
- Ability to obtain a Commercial Pesticide Applicator's license
- Excellent interpersonal skills – ability to work in a group setting
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to work without direct supervision
- Valid driver's license

Preferred Qualifications:

- B.S./B.A. in biological sciences or natural resources
- Experience with ecosystem restoration, invasive species control, and herbicide application
- Familiarity with Michigan flora and invasive species identification
- Experience or ability to safely use and maintain tools and equipment
- Proficient knowledge using GPS units and ArcGIS software
- Knowledge in collecting, recording, and processing field data

- Orienteering and backcountry navigation experience

Work Environment/Physical Demands

The majority of work for this position is field based and will occur outdoors including exposure to adverse weather conditions, herbicides, poisonous plants, and biting insects. Crew members will need the ability to perform strenuous physical labor and carry backpacks or equipment long distances over rough terrain and through thick vegetation.

Applying for this Position

To apply for this position please submit a resume, cover letter and three references.

The application deadline is February 26th 2016

Compensation: \$14/hour

Please send your materials via mail or email to:

Leelanau Conservancy

Attn: Becky Hill, Natural Areas and Preserves Manager

P.O. Box 1007, Leland, MI. 49654

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