



SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

Responsibilities include visiting landowners in the field; evaluating field conditions, best management practices and resource concerns; designing structural practices; overseeing construction of said practices meets required standards and specifications; completing checkout of completed work. Other related field work (outdoors in various conditions) and computer/office work. On the job training will be provided by Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Position pays \$18.12/hr plus \$400 per month stipend in lieu of health insurance for a total rate of \$20.44 per hour. KPERs, Annual Leave/Sick Leave and 11 paid holidays included. Duty station is the USDA Service Center in Paola KS. Work may be completed in neighboring counties (Franklin, Miami, Johnson, Douglas, Shawnee) as workload dictates. This is a full-time position. Office hours are 8AM-4:30PM Monday through Friday; this position is exempt from overtime.

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma or GED; **background in conservation or agriculture through at least 2 years of experience or degree**; ability to communicate effectively and work well with people; knowledge of GPS, laser level and arc GIS mapping. Valid Kansas driver's license with no infractions, ability to successfully complete a federal background investigation through the US Dept. of Agriculture, and ability to drive full-size pick-up truck and utilize ATV for field work.

Send resume including two references to Miami County Conservation District via email at mi.co.conservation@gmail.com. Open until filled. EEO

~posted 9.13.23~

WORK DUTIES

1. Investigates and promotes opportunities with landowners for conservation planning. Receives requests for establishment of plans and evaluates areas where practices can be beneficially incorporated. Responds accordingly to develop the necessary conservation planning products.
2. Explains programs and cost-share payment procedures for landowners. Determines need and feasibility of related conservation practices, inspects proposed sites, and advises for on-site selections.
3. Independently prepares basic conservation plans and works with soil conservationists and wildlife biologists to achieve multiple benefits. Designs covering conservation practices with approved guidance.
4. Contacts farmers and ranchers to develop a systematic application schedule for implementation and provides on-site assistance required for other agricultural practices being adopted in conservation plans.
5. Executes a schedule of follow-up checks to evaluate progress and effectiveness of practices and overall conservation plan implementation. Provides proactive recommendations for revisions.
6. Reviews proposed practices designed by others as requested. Checks completed practices to determine that specifications are met. Completes field sheets and recommends acceptability of completed practices to the supervisor for final certification.
7. Provides technical training for producers and other employees. Assists with public information activities such as conducting practice demonstrations and discussing conservation practices on tours. Presents material on practice application and specifications at community or contractor meetings. Writes news stories relative to the application of conservation practices.
8. Works proactively within a team concept to develop and implement ways to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of the products and/or services provided to internal and external customers.
9. Performs other duties as assigned.