

Baxter County Conservation District is taking applications for a Grassland Specialist position. This position will primarily support the goals of the Baxter County Conservation District with a focus on conservation programs and best management practices regarding soil health and improved water quality. As the specialist, you will engage with internal and extension staff, contractors, and partners. You will also communicate with a large network of private landowners, government representatives and conservation professionals by providing a high degree of customer service. You will also be involved in all aspects of the 319 Watershed Project, including budgets, partner payments and other program accounting tasks.

Applicants must be able to:

Maintain existing relationships and build new partnerships and engage with a large network of restoration partners, technical experts, landowners and program participants, funding partners and government agencies

Create and maintain a strong working relationship with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and other state and local entities

Train and educate landowners on soil health and improved water quality

Schedule, organize and participate in media efforts, field days and special events to promote and enhance conservation practices

Represent Baxter County Conservation District at meetings and conferences with key partners and producers

Report progress and projects needs to Baxter County Conservation District Board, NRCS, District Staff, and other state and local entities

Required Knowledge Skills and Abilities:

Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with landowners and partner agencies in person, by telephone and through written communication

Develop, manage and coordinate all aspects of program budgets, partner payments, other program accounting tasks

Develop and manage partner agreements as well as government, sponsorship and other grant contracts/agreements

Manage the collections, coordination and management of program and partner data

Connect interested landowners with restoration professionals and coordinating a network of grassland professionals and experts throughout Baxter County

Ability to work with diverse clientele

Must possess knowledge of soil characteristics, topography, and plant material sufficient to formulate long-range conservation plans designed to convert many acres of eroded land to perennial forage production and improve existing pastureland in poor condition.

Possess knowledge of agronomy, plant science and practical engineering techniques sufficient to assist in planning and developing vegetative cover for watershed protection and stream corridor management for improved water quality, streambank protection, wildlife habitat, livestock production and reduced sedimentation.

Ability to learn, collaborate and have general knowledge of programs offered by government agencies and other partner entities to assist landowners with meeting their objectives

Ability to work outside for extended periods of time

Ability to learn computer programs that pertain to Excel data base, GIS and other programs pertaining to farmland and designs

Must be able to meet deadlines, including but not limited to monthly updates of accomplishments monthly, quarterly, semi-annually and annually on projects

Maintain equipment owned by the District

The successful applicant must be self-motivated with the ability to work both independently and as a team player as well as possess a strong work ethic.

The successful applicant will be an employee of the Baxter County Conservation District with annual performance evaluations, vacation, sick leave, retirement, insurance and government holidays.

Starting pay of \$15.00 per hour

APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AND A RESUME NO LATER THAN JULY 26, 2024. APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT CAN BE FOUND UNDER THE "EMPLOYMENT" TAB AT www.baxtercountycd.com. EMAIL APPLICATIONS AND RESUMES TO BAXTERCOUNTYCD.COM