

Nutrient Management Technician

Organization: Henry Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Job Description:

The Nutrient Management Specialist with the Henry Soil & Water Conservation District is a full-time position for a period of five years with the possibility of extended employment upon completion of the initial five-year period. The district is looking for a motivated candidate to help promote, assist, and educate Henry, Fulton and Western Lucas County landowners about the best management practices for maintaining clean water, healthy soils and a sustainable landscape. The person occupying this position should be, or very quickly become, proficient in technical aspects of program implementation. This includes the ability to work with local government entities, agribusinesses and farmers under complex and challenging circumstances. The employee is directly responsible to the Henry SWCD board of supervisors for general supervision. The employee will confer with the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) for work priorities and guidance and provide assistance on agricultural pollution matters. The person will perform work in Henry, Fulton and Western Lucas Counties. (A vehicle will be provided.)

Full Benefit Package including health insurance and Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Work schedule of Mon-Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. - 40 hours a week with some evening meetings.

Required Training, Experience and Qualifications:

- High School diploma required (Associate Degree or higher preferred in environmental science, including but not limited to: soil and water management, livestock waste management, natural resources management, agronomy and soils.)
- Related work experience preferred
- Must be able to pass a background check and pre-employment drug screen
- Must be able to traverse rough terrain in variable weather conditions and carry 40 pounds
- Must maintain a valid Ohio driver's license, insurance and possess a good driving record
- Working knowledge/experience of agricultural practices
- Education, experience and/or experience in public relations such as speech and communication, journalism, interviewing and report writing.
- Must maintain a clean and neat appearance consistent with the public contact aspect of the position

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Develop nutrient management plans and manure management plans
- Consult with staff to develop and implement an information and education program designed to reach farmers and livestock owners and operators.
- Serve as primary point of contact for investigation of pollution complaints relating to agricultural sediment, manure pollution and manure application in both Henry, Fulton and Western Lucas Counties.
- Assume responsibility for coordinating and expediting the state cost share program between the Ohio Department of Agriculture and eligible participants.

- Provide technical and engineering field assistance to farmers/landowners and other agencies.
- Provide assistance to the H2Ohio program for sign-up, verification of nutrient management practices, drainage structures and data management.
- Assume other duties and responsibilities determined to be necessary at the Henry SWCD.

Training and Supervision

The person occupying this position will perform the assigned duties and responsibilities with supervision from the district board of supervisors. The occupant will depend on ODA staff for specific guidance of nutrient management plan implementation.

This position will develop working knowledge through training of:

1. Responsibilities, authorities and basic policies and principles of the district board of supervisors.
2. Ohio's laws regarding agricultural pollution, rules adopted under the law, and technical and financial means of assisting people in complying with the law.
3. The major soil types of the district and their properties, limiting characteristics and their relative suitability for various uses.
4. Proper management of land under various uses and the planning application and maintenance of alternative practices to abate sediment and manure pollution.
5. Methods and techniques for reaching, motivating and assisting people in nutrient management planning and preventing agricultural pollution.
6. The basic relationship between agricultural pollution and water quality.