



**JOB POSTING:** Policy Staffer: Land Conservation & Water

**About MEC:**

Created in 1980 to lead Michigan's environmental movement, the Michigan Environmental Council (MEC) is a coalition of nearly 80 organizations with offices in Lansing and Detroit. MEC combines deep environmental policy expertise, close connection to state and federal decision-makers, and relationships with broad alliances to achieve positive public policy solutions to our most challenging environmental issues.

**Position:**

MEC seeks a Land Conservation & Water Policy Staffer to support our efforts to defend Michigan's environment by shaping policy decisions made in the Michigan Capitol. The position will have a primary focus on public lands, land conservation, and surface and groundwater policy. The position will report directly to the Water Policy Director but will also work in a collaborative environment with MEC's policy team.

The Policy Staffer does the following for MEC's public lands, land conservation, and water priority policies: conducts research; analyzes policy proposals; educates decision makers on policy priorities and organizational positions; develops and executes issue strategy campaigns; and advocates in the Legislature, administration and state agencies. An ideal candidate will utilize a range of skills and relationships to strengthen Michigan's environmental resilience in the face of weakened environmental standards, unsustainable land use practices and a changing climate. The position will be based in MEC's Lansing headquarters. A significant portion of this position involves directly interfacing with elected officials and government staff.

**Responsibilities:**

- Provide written and oral advocacy to further MEC's land conservation, groundwater and surface water priorities at the Michigan Legislature, its executive branch and its state agencies
- Analyze environmental policy proposals in both legislative and executive branches and monitor their progress
- Educate policymakers and staff about environmental concerns and priorities
- Work with external consultants and partners to align strategies and goals
- Represent MEC at various workgroup and stakeholder tables
- Generate research and advocacy reports

- Strengthen, develop and nurture relationships with state decision makers, elected officials and a network of allies
- Support the Water Policy Director in efforts to advance policies that improve water quality, increase land conservation and expand sustainable agricultural land use practices throughout Michigan
- Assist Program Directors in the design and implementation of program goals and campaigns
- Monitor and engage on other policy areas as needed
- Attend legislative committees and, as needed, public hearings

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- One to two years of experience in legislative, policy advocacy or a related field
- Some knowledge of Michigan legislative and administrative processes
- Strong written and oral communications advocacy, interpersonal relationship and teamwork skills
- A proven strong work ethic and willingness to go the extra mile
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite and Google (GSuite)
- Ability to work well independently and as part of a team, to meet deadlines and to balance multiple tasks
- Experience or aptitude working in diverse coalitions, alliances or other groups
- Professional demeanor, sense of humor and positive attitude

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Three years of experience in legislative analysis, policy or political advocacy
- Extensive understanding of and familiarity with Michigan's legislative and political landscape
- Understanding and familiarity with land conservation and water policy
- Aptitude for and interest in politics and environmental public policy

**Other Position Notes:**

- The successful candidate for this position will be required to register as a lobbyist
- This position is based in Lansing and requires occasional travel to other locations in Michigan and nationally. Due to COVID-19, the position will be remote until such time as it is safe to resume in-office work
- This position requires occasional work outside of normal hours including evenings and weekends
- MEC has a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy, unless you qualify for a federal government approved accommodation

**Compensation Package & Title:**

MEC provides staff with an industry-leading compensation package. The Policy

Staffer will obtain a salary between \$41,000 and \$62,000 and a title of either specialist or coordinator. Both title and compensation are commensurate with experience.

**Application Process:**

Submit a single PDF with 1) a strong, detailed cover letter, 2) a resume and 3) at least three references (minimum two professional) to [jobs@environmentalcouncil.org](mailto:jobs@environmentalcouncil.org). Include "Policy Staffer: Land Conservation & Water" in the subject line. Please direct questions about the job description to Water Program Director Megan Tinsley at [megan@environmentalcouncil.org](mailto:megan@environmentalcouncil.org). Application review underway and continues until the position is filled.

*MEC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our goal is to be a diverse workforce that is representative of the Michigan citizens we serve. MEC does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, non-disqualifying physical or mental disability, national origin, veteran status or any other basis covered by appropriate law.*