Employment Opportunities – Part Time Seasonal

Natural Area Manager Assistant

with

The Prairie Enthusiasts in NW Dane County

**Employer**

The Prairie Enthusiasts, Viroqua, WI

**Work Locations**

NW Dane County, WI at Pleasure Valley and Parrish Savanna Conservancy, 10747 Moyer Rd., Blue Mounds, Town of Vermont, and possibly other protected TPE preserves in the area.

**Employment Objectives**

To assist in the management of natural areas with the goal of restoration back to pre-settlement conditions.

**Work Schedule**

Work is anticipated for spring and early summer of 2020. Approximately 40 hours per week for the months of April, May and June for a maximum of 480 hours. Work is dependent on weather conditions with restriction of work during rainy conditions. Work can be scheduled during the week ends to allow for 40 hour work weeks.

**Compensation**

Pay will be at $16.00 to $18.00 per hour depending on qualifications and experience. No benefits are available.

**Work Activities**

a. Cut and treat and/or herbicide invasive species including garlic mustard, dame’s rocket, buckthorn, honeysuckle, multiflora rose, reed canary grass, sumac. Basal bark herbicide treatment of brush and trees.

b. Girdle trees with chainsaw and treat with herbicide.

c. Establish or maintain forested and prairie grassland burn breaks using chainsaw and mowing.

d. Clear brush and trees with chainsaw and herbicide cut stems.

e. Conduct prescribed burns (spring) in both prairie grasslands and woodland savannas.

**Minimum Requirements**
a. Ability to work 8 hour day operating chainsaw or carrying 38 lb. back pack herbicide sprayer over steep and wooded terrain.

b. Ability to discriminate between those plant species targeted for treatment and desirable species to be retained.

c. Ability to operate Polaris 6 X 6 UTV and Kubota 30 hp tractor with hydrostatic transmission with instruction.

d. Ability to mix and apply herbicide under direction of conservancy manager including: 2,4 D, Garlon -4, Escort, and Oust.

e. Ability to work alone with task direction from conservancy manager.

f. Ability to orient in wooded terrain with maps and aerial photos.

**Desirable Qualifications**

a. Some experience leading or participating as a crew for prescribed burns.

b. Proficient at woodland, savanna, prairie, and wetland plant species identification.

c. Significant prescribed burning experience as crew, line boss, or burn boss.

d. Adept at maintenance and repair of chain saws, herbicide sprayers, prescribed fire pumper units.

**Employer Contact**

The contact person for The Prairie Enthusiasts is Kenneth Wade, 10747 Moyer Rd., Blue Mounds, WI, 53517 and by email at: kenneth.wade@tds.net

**Pleasure Valley Conservancy Contact**

Much of the work will take place at the Pleasure Valley Conservancy, and will be directed by Ken Wade, 10747 Moyer Rd., Blue Mounds, WI, 53517, e-mail at: kenneth.wade@tds.net. Telephone contact is 608-767-3111. Contact him if you have questions about the preserve and type of work to be done there.

**Send Applications To:**

Kenneth Wade, 10747 Moyer Rd., Blue Mounds, WI, 53517 and by email at: kenneth.wade@tds.net

Applicants should provide detailed descriptions of their knowledge, experience, and abilities as they relate to the qualifications listed, and information on availability for work starting April 2020.