

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

### CONFLUENCE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

The Confluence AmeriCorps program advances environmental equity through innovative partnerships with local organizations in the Portland metropolitan area. We offer life changing service opportunities that engage Members at the intersection of environmentalism and social justice while promoting individual leadership and development. This position is a dynamic combination of serving with a Project Partner on a dedicated project (80%) and engaging in professional and leadership development opportunities, alongside a 22 Member cohort (20%).

### DATES OF SERVICE

September 5, 2018 – July 26, 2019 (11 months – 1700 hours)

### PROJECT PARTNER

Columbia Slough Watershed Council

<http://Columbiaslough.org>



### POSITION TITLE

Habitat Restoration Educator

### POSITION SUMMARY

This position is a partnership between Confluence Environmental Center, AmeriCorps Program and Columbia Slough Watershed Council. The Member will support our k-12 education and habitat restoration programs. This position will build on the successes of previous AmeriCorps Members and focus on leading High School youth mentors and elementary school students as they learn about habitat restoration and assist with a project in a natural area near their schools. Tangential projects include related classroom lesson support, restoration volunteer work party leadership, and preparation and leadership for several restoration focused events such as our Great Slough Cleanup. Time will be spent on k-12 (primarily 4-6th grade) classroom and field trip place-based science education (25%), restoration program focus (including student planting projects) (40%), and outreach and event support (15%). Expected service setting will be approximately 50% office, 25% field, and 25% classroom. Outdoor activities will include leading students in planting or clearing invasive plants (fall and winter months), site surveys (spring and fall,) flatwater paddling (canoe or kayak), and outdoor education.

The Member will participate in Confluence led leadership development activities which include: Leadership Development Program, Change Agent Project, team meetings, National Service events and other self-directed development opportunities (20%).

### ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (to include, but not limited to):

- Leadership role in restoration education program
- Classroom and field trip presentations and support
- Habitat restoration or stewardship work party planning, support, and leadership
- On-the-water programs: safety talk, group paddle leadership, habitat and restoration discussion, Christmas Tree Habitat Creation project
- Complete and submit all necessary paperwork and reports in a timely manner; abide by program policies; attend and complete all training and service requirements.

### POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Proven experience working with or living in diverse communities; Personal and professional commitment to racial equity, diversity, and inclusion work
- Ability to identify common Pacific Northwest native and invasive plants
- Interest and basic understanding of Pacific Northwest urban ecology
- Able to serve outside on uneven and potentially steep terrain, lift up to 30 lbs overhead (e.g. kayaks, tools, etc)
- Outgoing nature; able to enthusiastically speak to groups including large work parties and students
- Experience and ability to manage and generate enthusiasm with students in classroom and outdoor settings
- Ability to cheerfully service outdoors with students, including heavy rain or cold conditions (some gear provided)
- Basic computer skills (including Microsoft office) and writing ability
- Willingness/openness to learn about and discuss racial equity and social justice issues.
- Ability to serve as part of a diverse team.
- Regular and reliable attendance and dependability.
- AmeriCorps Members must be: 18 years of age or older; U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident; able to commit to the full term of service; able to successfully pass a fingerprint criminal history background check.

### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Spanish language or other language spoken commonly in our watershed (Vietnamese, Laotian, Russian, Somali)
- Habitat restoration experience and/or coursework
- Strong interest in Environmental Justice, urban habitat restoration, and/or youth science education
- Connection to the communities in our watershed (North to Northeast Portland, Fairview, or Gresham)
- Strong plant identification skills
- Teaching or mentoring experience
- Cultural agility training or lived experience
- Proven ability to work both independently and as a member of a team
- Experience organizing and implementing community events
- Valid driver's license and able to drive a motor vehicle (preferably manual transmission)

### MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE

- \$13,700 living allowance paid over the 11-month term of service (approx. \$1,245 monthly, before taxes).
- \$5,920 education award (qualified student loans and/or education expenses)
- Loan Forbearance
- Health Care Insurance
- Child Care Reimbursement
- \$100 Training Fund
- Professional Leadership Certificate, Trainings and Networking opportunities.
- May be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

### PROJECT LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- Columbia Slough Watershed Council (7040 NE 47th Ave, Portland OR 97218)
- CSWC is located near the 75 bus line and bicycling is also encouraged.
- CSWC owns a truck that will be used for hauling equipment and, if no other options are available, for external meetings.
- On occasion it would be helpful for the Member to have personal vehicle available but may not be absolutely necessary.

### EQUITY & INCLUSION

Confluence does not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, pregnancy, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status or genetic information. We are committed to a diverse workplace, and to supporting our Members and staff with ongoing career development opportunities. Confluence is an AA/EEO employer.

Confluence provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

## HOW TO APPLY

### **STEP 1: Apply to Project Supervisor:**

Email the following items to Corrina Chase at [corrina.chase@columbiaslough.org](mailto:corrina.chase@columbiaslough.org) – Include “Habitat Restoration Educator” in subject line:

- **Résumé**
- **Cover letter (1 page)**
- **Contact information for three references (name, title, relationship, email & phone)**

### **STEP 2: Apply to Confluence:**

- **Complete [AmeriCorps Application](#) (Should be completed by July 15, 2018)**
- **Confluence interviews** and offers positions throughout August 2018.

### **QUESTIONS ABOUT AMERICORPS? CONTACT:**

Sherrie Jackson

Operations Coordinator | Confluence Environmental Center, AmeriCorps Program

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