

Conservation Specialist- Minnesota Soil Health Coalition

The Minnesota Soil Health Coalition is accepting applications for the position of Conservation Specialist. The Soil Health Coalition in Minnesota is producer driven and has a mission to promote the principles of soil health practices. The coalition is led by an elected board, made up of Minnesota agriculture producers across the state. The goal of the coalition is to educate and provide outreach to agriculture producers across the state of Minnesota to improve ecosystem services such as soil health. Soil health has been recognized in Minnesota to provide multiple benefits to the environment, but also to production agriculture. The incumbent will be responsible for aiding the Executive Director along with helping producers in the field with soil health. The position location is negotiable within the state of Minnesota.

Qualifications

Minimum Qualifications

Candidates should have two years of experience with agriculture or conservation. The candidate should also possess a minimum of a B.S in agronomy, conservation management, agriculture, or comparable degree. Along with an agriculture background, the applicant must possess experience with Microsoft office and soil health. Candidates must have excellent written and oral communication skills. The applicant must have a valid driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications

Candidates should have experience with different soil health practices (cover crops, no-till, crop rotations, and others) and their effects on the Minnesota landscape. Applicants should have working knowledge of different state and federal programs available for producers related to soil health. Experience working with producers on different soil health practices and or conservation management is desired. Familiarity with the Minnesota landscape, local environmental issues, and different stakeholders across the state is recommended.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide producers with information related to soil health practices such as cover crops, no-till, crop rotations, and nutrient management
- Assist producers by providing solutions or transferring them to other soil health resources
- Responsible for assisting the MN Soil Health Coalition in a manner that supports and guides the organization's mission as defined by the board of directors
- Communicates effectively with the executive director and board of directors.
- Complete conservation planning
- Complete soil health testing including obtaining, analyzing, and generating reports of the data and correlating to economics and management
- Create and provide the board with a monthly report of activities and information that would be relevant to improve the Coalition
- Stay informed with all the various programs available for producers
- Attend training sessions to stay up to date regarding soil health
- Work towards Job Approval Authority for soil health practices and/or progressively work toward conservation planner certification
- Coordinate soil health educational workshops and field days
- Promote cost share opportunities provided by the Coalition and partners

Travel: Travel is flexible and need based. During the peak local travel will be up to 50% of time with the possibility of out-of-state travel.

Position Status: Full Time (Independent Contractor)

Position Term: June 1, 2022 - June 1, 2025 with opportunity for permanent employment

Compensation: Competitive salary

Benefits: None

Position Location: Must be Located in Minnesota

To apply: Attach a resume & cover letter, and email to mark@mnsoilhealth.org. Applications will be accepted until Friday, June 10. Please complete the application materials and for further information regarding this position please contact:

Mark Gutierrez, Executive Director, Minnesota Soil Health Coalition

Email: mark@mnsoilhealth.org

Phone: 505-980-1360