Position Announcement:
Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
Chesapeake Conservation Corps

Background: The Nanticoke Watershed Alliance is a consortium of organizations working together to conserve the natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the Nanticoke River watershed. The mission, goals, and objectives of the NWA are developed by consensus with our partnership. Partners include organizations and businesses from Maryland and Delaware including representatives from agriculture, industry, environmental, business, community, state, local, and federal governmental organizations. NWA’s five core values are collaboration, communication, conservation, scientific integrity, and education. The NWA office is located in Vienna, MD, on the Eastern Shore.

www.nanticokeriver.org

Responsibilities: This is a one-year stipend volunteer position with the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance made possible through the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The Corps Volunteer will work directly with NWA staff to help administer the various programs of the organization. Projects include a variety of efforts targeted at watershed restoration, environmental education, public outreach, and water quality monitoring.

- Assisting with the implementation of a student and teacher environmental education program, including teacher workshops, in-classroom presentations, field days, outdoor learning experiences, and action projects.
- Working with Nanticoke Creekwatchers, a citizen science volunteer program that monitors water quality in order to identify potential restoration projects, to observe water quality trends, and to engage watershed residents.
- Assisting with access and education related to the Nanticoke River Water trail, a portion of the Captain John Smith National Historic Trail.
- Assisting with the facilitation of homeowner educational workshops, focused on water quality and stormwater best management practices (BMP).
- Working with watershed communities to implement watershed restoration projects identified by county/state Green Infrastructure maps and the Nanticoke Watershed Management Plan, including rain gardens, rain barrels, and/or living shorelines. Potential projects include a stormwater backyard BMP demonstration park to serve as a tool for outreach and education on BMPs.
- Assisting with the implementation of public outreach efforts with attention to the Alliance’s diversity initiatives.
- Assisting with continued maintenance of and outreach on the Tom Tyler Nature Trail, which highlights forestry BMPs and more.
- Developing public outreach and education materials, working with volunteers, and attending events aimed at environmental stewardship and the importance of the Nanticoke River.
- Participating in the volunteer Maryland DNR Streamwaders program, performing macro invertebrate sampling, leading a volunteer clean up event through Project Clean Stream, and performing oyster restoration on the Nanticoke River through the Oyster Recovery Partnership.
Training and Benefits: The Corps Program provides hands-on environmental, leadership and green job training opportunities for young adults through environmental, community engagement and energy conservation projects. This initiative, supported by the Trust, Constellation Energy, the National Park Service, and the State of Maryland, places young adults 18-25 with nonprofit or government agencies to work fulltime in the environmental field for a one-year term of service in the Chesapeake Bay region ($16,000 annual stipend).

The purpose of the Corps is 1) to enable young adults to work with host organizations and communities throughout the Mid-Atlantic region on issues surrounding the Chesapeake Bay, and 2) to provide leadership and green training opportunities for young adults pursuing environmental and conservation careers including conferences, trainings, grant writing, project management and others.

Chesapeake Bay Trust will also provide admission into the Chesapeake Watershed Forum, a Bay-wide conference with ample learning and networking opportunities. Corps Volunteer will receive grant writing experience and plan, implement, and manage a project of their own through a mini-grant offered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

The Corps Volunteer will receive work skills and training in restoration best management practices such as rain garden and living shoreline installations, water quality monitoring techniques, community outreach, professional writing and public speaking, environmental education, non-profit operations and management, event planning, partner development, fundraising, and more.

With a staff of three, there will be ample opportunity for the Corps Volunteer to be an integral member of a dedicated team. The Corps Volunteer will work directly with NWA partner organizations and gain professional contacts through various networking opportunities. The Corps Volunteer will learn the inner workings of a small non-profit conservation organization and will be given the opportunity to take ownership of their work as well as understand how it fits into the overall conservation efforts of the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance.

Qualifications: The preferred candidate will possess and demonstrate excellence in the following areas: verbal and written communication, computer skills, problem solving, leadership, public speaking, and commitment to the Chesapeake Bay. Experience in website development, graphic design, or GIS is a plus. A background in science or the environment is not required, although the candidate should have an interest in these areas and in other conservation issues. Candidates must have reliable transportation and a valid driver’s license.

Start Date: August 23, 2016

To Apply: For more information about the Chesapeake Conservation Corps Program and to apply for the program, visit the Chesapeake Bay Trust website. This position is funded through the Chesapeake Bay Trust, and the NWA is one of several potential host organizations.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2016 at 5:00 pm