

# Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District

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## Land Steward Position Description (Full-Time, Hourly, Non-Exempt)

### **Classification**

The Land Steward position is responsible for managing, restoring, and conserving the natural resources of the Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District in order to support healthy populations of wildlife and sustain viable native habitat. Habitats found throughout the Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District include woodlands, wetlands, prairies, and riparian corridors. These all offer unique challenges and one must be able to adapt to best management practices between habitats. The position is full-time, non-exempt, and hourly. The position reports to the Park Superintendent.

### **Illustrative Duties**

- 1) Develop, evaluate, and update natural resource management plans. Must work well with park managers, maintenance staff, volunteers, and other cooperating agencies to implement management plans.
- 2) Must keep accurate records of land management activities (cutting, mowing, burning, etc.).
- 3) Conduct habitat restoration initiatives (seed collections, plantings, maintenance) where needed.
- 4) Properly treat and remove non-native/invasive species.
- 5) Must be able to properly utilize herbicides and keep accurate records.
- 6) Conduct trail evaluations, clear obstructions, remove litter, and report any issues to maintenance department
- 7) Properly uses and maintains equipment
- 8) Interview seasonal staff as assigned and make hiring recommendations. Train, supervise, and evaluate seasonal staff as needed. Must be able to handle disciplinary issues and all related documentation in a prompt, consistent, and accurate manner.
- 9) Prepare and update (as needed) a list of volunteer projects in anticipation of requests and inquiries. Must be available to schedule and oversee volunteer projects regarding the land stewardship department.
- 10) Programs involving land management, cultural history, and others as assigned by the director.
- 11) Other duties as assigned

### **Qualifications**

- 1) Bachelor's degree from an accredited four year college or university with a degree in a Natural Resources (Wildlife Management, Biology, Environmental Science, Land Management) or closely related field and/or five years of hands on experience with land stewardship related management.
- 2) Ability to deal with the public in a professional and courteous manner.
- 3) Ability to work well with coworkers, managers, and other personnel. Must be able to communicate effectively.



- 4) Must be able to physically perform the labor described above in an effective, efficient, and safe manner.
- 5) Must be able to work independently and in a team.
- 6) Must be flexible and available to work weekends, holidays, and intermittent hours if needed.
- 7) Must be in good, general health. This position will require standing for long periods, sitting, walking, use of hands and fingers, climbing, balancing, kneeling, crouching, talking, and listening. Must be able to carry 50 pounds for long distances.
- 8) Must be able to work in all weather conditions (wet, dry, humid, hot, cold, etc.) year-round.
- 9) Ability to safely use a wide variety of tools, tractors, implements, and other equipment to accomplish tasks.
- 10) Must complete First Aid/CPR/Blood-borne Pathogen training within six months of employment
- 11) Must possess a valid driver's license with an acceptable driving record, allowing insurability by the Park District's current vehicle insurance carrier under existing coverage provisions at the time of employment and thereafter.
- 12) No history of serious criminal activity (felonies) or other related offenses.

