

## **CREP Resource Specialist – LaSalle County Soil & Water Conservation District**

### **Position description and information on how to apply:**

The Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts (AISWCD) is accepting applications for a joint position with the IL Department of Natural Resources as a CREP Resource Specialist in northern Illinois. This is a full-time, grant funded position.

The person filling the position will be housed in the LaSalle County SWCD office and will work closely with the CREP Manager at the IL Department of Natural Resources and participating county SWCDs of assigned Land Use Councils (LUC's) to coordinate and implement the IL Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.

### **JOB SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITIES**

Requires a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a Natural Resources field, with a concentration in forestry, wildlife biology, ecology, botany or related field, plus two years of experience in forestry management, wildlife management or a related field. Working knowledge and/or experience with the State-side of the CREP desirable. A Master's degree can substitute for 2 years' experience. Strong interest in and knowledge of biology, ecology and management of wildlife and their habitat requirements and habitat management techniques are essential. Requires working knowledge of forest management and best management practices for habitat restoration. Must have or be able to obtain an IL Commercial Applicators License within 90 days of employment. The desired applicant will be proficient with a variety of computer software applications including ArcGIS, MS Access, MS Word, MS Excel and MS Power Point and possess a working knowledge of GPS equipment and land survey techniques.

Field work may be taxing and in extreme temperatures. CREP Resources Specialists will need to be strong hikers and comfortable working in adverse environmental conditions to gain access to remote sites to complete field work efficiently. These positions require the ability to work efficiently and effectively with others within and outside the organization (i.e. USFWS, NWTF, NRCS, FSA, IDNR, SWCDs, etc.), as well as independently, and be able to prioritize a heavy and varied workload. Effective organizational, written and verbal skills are a must.

Work hours are 8 am-4:30 pm, M-F (subject to change due to SWCD office hours). Job includes both office and field work. Requires possession of valid driver's license, reliable transportation, and vehicle insurance coverage which meets state minimum requirements, at all times. Mandatory security background check, with fingerprinting, will be required of the selected applicant.

Please send a resume with job history and at least three references to AISWCD 4285 North Walnut Street Road, Springfield, IL 62707.

**Close Date:** February 9, 2015