



Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute



Position Title

Watershed and Nature Center Steward

Sponsoring Organization

Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI) – Watershed & Nature Center Steward
(<http://www.pcei.org>)

Mission

To increase citizen involvement in decisions that affect our region's environment. Through community organizing and education, PCEI assists members of our communities in making environmentally sound and economically viable decisions that promote a sustainable future.

Location

1040 Rodeo Drive, Moscow, ID 83843

Dates of Service

September 3, 2013- July 31, 2014

Position Summary

The AmeriCorps member will work with PCEI staff to plan, implement, and coordinate volunteers to complete various watershed restoration activities throughout the region and projects at the PCEI Nature Center.

Position Description

The member will work with PCEI Watersheds staff and AmeriCorps members to help with all duties related to watershed restoration. These activities may include:

- Monitoring streams, wetlands, and restoration sites.
- Mapping and surveying sites.
- Installing erosion control measures.
- Planting and seeding native species.
- Site maintenance such as weeding, placing plant protectors, and mowing.
- Leading and planning volunteer events.
- Researching watershed and riparian issues as needed.

The member will lead the administration of daily activities and special events at the PCEI Nature Center including:

- Lead tours to small and large groups including local classrooms and community groups.
- Participate in developing a vision for the PCEI Nature Center.
- Maintain the appearance of the Rodeo Campus.



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- Stewardship such as planting, weed control, and trail development.
- Potentially building new structures as the Nature Center develops.
- Building structures such as a windmill or an outdoor classroom.
- Committed to serving the needs of the community and the environment of the Palouse.

General Responsibilities

Watershed and restoration responsibilities: (30%)

- Assist and lead installation of stream restoration projects.
- Assist in the maintenance of existing restoration projects.
- Provide support for Watershed programs and special events.

Nursery/Garden and Nature Center Coordination Responsibilities: (30%)

- Assist and lead construction and landscaping projects at the PCEI the Nature Center.
- Provide support for nursery/garden planning and development through research and design input.
- Develop and enhance outreach materials, activities and events for the PCEI Nature Center.

Volunteer Involvement Responsibilities: (20%)

- Expand PCEI's system for recruiting, training, coordinating and tracking volunteer participation in nursery, garden and Nature Center activities.
- Increase community involvement in Nature Center projects by conducting outreach programs, developing materials and presentations to engage community members in plant propagation, care, and related nursery and garden activities.
- Train volunteers on native plant propagation and care, and in successful and sustainable practices
- Research and develop strategies for improving community involvement in nursery and garden projects and expanding volunteer opportunities within PCEI.
- Collaborate with the Watersheds Program team and Green Living Coordinator to research volunteer needs and develop volunteer position descriptions.
- Help manage volunteer needs and personal objectives.

Additional Responsibilities: (20%)

- Maintain Nursery and garden tools, equipment, facilities, and supplies
- Facilitate volunteer events and drive vehicles to transport volunteers for these events.
- Maintain accurate and detailed data.
- Maintain Nursery and Community Gardens files, websites, and other outreach materials.
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- Complete and submit all necessary PCEI/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Attend and complete all PCEI/AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings, and national service days.
- Wear AmeriCorps uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events

Requirements

- Excellent communication and personal skills.
- Good computer and writing skills.
- Willingness to work weekends.
- 18 years or older by completion of placement term.
- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident
- Possession of high school diploma or equivalent, or commitment to earning one prior to receiving education award.
- Ability to commit to the full term of service.
- Desire to serve with people to promote education, environmental stewardship, and an ethic of service.
- Communicate and interact in a positive, professional manner with various populations such as: PCEI staff and board, project partners, colleagues, community volunteers, students and the general public.
- Serve effectively as part of a team, be able to work independently and work effectively under harsh field conditions year round.
- Submit to a criminal history background check.
- Regular and reliable attendance.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in community organizing and volunteer recruitment and training.
- Work or education experience in natural resources related to native plant conservation, ecological restoration, and organic or sustainable growing.
- Ability to use a wide variety of hand and power tools including mowers, weed eaters, and chainsaws.
- Experience and willingness to be prepared and to work effectively in harsh field conditions.
- Ability and willingness to drive 4-wheel drive vehicles with manual and standard transmissions, with and without trailers.

Member Benefits

- 1700-hour members receive a living allowance paid in 11 monthly installments of approximately \$1100/month.



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- \$5,500 education benefit at the end of the year
- Loan forbearance (the Corporation for National and Community Service will also pay the interest that accrued during the member's service year upon completion of service.)
- Basic Medical Insurance Coverage
- Workers Compensation
- Childcare allowance (for those who qualify)