



2026-27 Conservation Collaborative of Central Ohio AmeriCorps Program

Environmental Educator and Outreach Specialist Position Description

Licking County's diverse land uses creates a diverse Soil & Water Program. The team is responsible for robust programming for the agricultural community, stormwater management and educational programming on water quality and healthy soil. Licking County Soil & Water works with landowners to conserve the natural resources through local leadership, education and technical assistance. The team supports Licking County River Round Up, Hartford Fair Natural Resources Area, Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow watershed group, and South Licking Watershed Conservancy District with projects and programs. Our work environment is in the field and in the office, high energy, high activity and mutual support.

This is a national service AmeriCorps Volunteer position affiliated with the Conservation Collaborative of Central Ohio. The Conservation Collaborative is an AmeriCorps State program administered by Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District and supported by ServeOhio, Ohio's state commission on service and volunteerism. The Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District is one of 9 AmeriCorps Volunteer host sites for this program. Through this position, you will be part of a 17-member cohort for the 2026-2027 program year.

This position constitutes a Full Time term of AmeriCorps Volunteer national service. You will complete a minimum of 1,700 hours of service over the course of one year (September 9, 2026 – August 31, 2027).

Usual hours of service will be M-F during regular office hours of 8:00am - 4:30pm excluding federal holidays at 771 East Main Street, Suite 100, Newark, Ohio. The ability to serve flexible hours, including some evenings and weekends, is required. Hours may fluctuate in consideration of seasonal changes, projects, or events. Supervised by the Conservation Educator.

Description of Key Position Responsibilities:

- Assist Conservation Educator with education activities including youth programming in schools and educator workshops.
- Develop and implement educational programs for classroom and community events.
- Assist with outreach activities such as preparing displays, tabling, set up/tear down and representing Soil & Water at community events including weekend, evening, and early morning events outside of regular office hours.
- Create promotional materials for various Soil & Water events and programs.
- Participate in helping to train Stream Team (citizen water quality testing) program members in field monitoring/data collections.

- Assist with stormwater education and outreach efforts under municipal stormwater permits (Stormwater MS4 permit Minimum Control Measures 1 & 2) through education and outreach activities.
- Coordination with Soil & Water team for large annual events such as tree sale, River Round Up, Hartford Fair programming, Annual Meeting, and Stormwater Awareness Week.
- Provide material and articles for social media, brochures and outreach materials including the organizational newsletter.
- Participate in training, conferences and assisting other AmeriCorps Volunteers at their host sites as necessary to increase knowledge and gain career networking opportunities
- Complete online timesheet and 2 activity reports monthly, required timesheets and monthly reports in the AmeriCorps online system

AmeriCorps Volunteer Responsibilities:

- Support on-the-ground conservation for other program host sites (activities to be preapproved by the program).
- Participate in program-led service days, trainings, and team-building activities.
- Complete timesheets, program reports, and other administrative items as scheduled.
- Participate in ServeOhio sponsored programs and activities.

Minimum Eligibility

- Must be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States.
- Must be at least 17 years of age by start date of service.
- Ability to pass a National Service Criminal History Check and any additional background checks, drug screen, and driving record check as determined by organization. (Having a background does not automatically exclude you from the position.)
- Ability to secure transportation to-and-from service sites.
- Possession of a valid driver's license, auto insurance, and reliable personal vehicle to use for service-related activities.

Preferred Skills/Qualifications/Experience

- Experience serving with youth K-12.
- Understanding of environmental issues and concern for improving the environment.
- Understanding of Water Quality testing procedures and protocols.
- Public speaking, tabling, and outreach experience preferred.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office and Google Suite software packages.
- Ability to serve outdoors in adverse weather conditions (heat, cold, insects, etc.).
- Ability to lift 40 pounds.
- Ability to traverse up to 2 miles over uneven terrain, potentially carrying program equipment, tools, and supplies with or without accommodation.

Benefits of the Full Time Term of Service Position

- **Living stipend distributed in equal biweekly payments of \$915 *before taxes*** (to total up to \$23,790 for the entire term of service). The living stipend will be this same amount irrespective of the number of hours served from pay period to pay period. The living stipend is not considered income for eligibility for government assistance programs (such as SNAP).
- **Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$7,395** (contingent upon completing the 1,700-hour requirement) that can be used toward qualifying student loans and/or future educational expenses (such as tuition, fees, and supplies).
- Access to Volunteer healthcare and childcare when active in service.

- Personal budgets for Training (\$250), Travel (\$150), and Field Gear (\$200) and a guarantee that at least 10% of service hours are dedicated to professional development activities.
- Soil & Water will also provide additional stipends for Field Gear (\$150), Travel (\$150), Training (\$250), and cell phone stipend (\$75 quarterly).
- Access to federal student loan forbearance while actively serving, including forgiveness of interest accrued during service (contingent upon completing the 1,700-hour requirement).
- Full Time AmeriCorps service is considered qualified employment for Public Service Loan Forgiveness.
- Valuable professional development through hands-on experience in environmental education, curriculum development, public engagement, event coordination, GIS and mapping, water quality monitoring, and science communication.
- Ability to serve alongside industry professionals and build a career in the environmental field!

Learn More

- Program's website: <https://www.franklinswcd.org/ameri corps>
- AmeriCorps website: <https://americorps.gov/>
- ServeOhio, Ohio's state commission on service and volunteerism website: <https://serve.ohio.gov/home>
- Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District: www.LickingSWCD.com

How to Apply

Complete an online application via the following link: <https://arcg.is/0mTPbO>

Or Scan the QR code



Applications will be accepted June 24 – July 12 and must be submitted using the online form linked above.

Questions?

Contact the AmeriCorps Program Coordinator, Abby Thiel, athiel@franklinswcd.org, with any questions regarding the AmeriCorps Program or application process.

Contact Deirdre Wise, Conservation Educator, DeirdreWise@LickingSWCD.com with questions about Licking County Soil & Water education programs.

This position constitutes a *national service* opportunity and NOT employment with Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District.