



## **2026-27 Conservation Collaborative of Central Ohio AmeriCorps Program**

### **AmeriCorps Buckeye Lake Watershed Coordinator**

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 an AmeriCorps national service 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. Licking County Soil & Water is serving as 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 8:00-4:30pm (average 35 hours a week) 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, increase, or decrease, in consideration of seasonal changes. Supervised by the Watershed Specialist Kyle Seitz, the position will work closely with Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow organization.

#### **Programs You will Support:**

- Assist with water quality education activities including youth programming in schools and community events.
- Produce and prepare education material for external and internal programs including brochures, displays, and articles.
- Prepare a monthly Buckeye Lake Watershed update for Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow Board meetings
- Coordination for large annual events at Soil & Water such as tree sale, River Round Up and Stormwater Awareness week programming.
- Coordinate water quality monitoring activities such as field monitoring/data collections, data

entry, analysis, and mapping.

- Coordinate Citizen Water Quality Testing Program (Licking County Stream Team and Lake Keepers) including training the volunteer Lake Keepers to collect monthly water samples
- Update and maintain the Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow data base of all water quality test results in the watershed
- Analyze Buckeye Lake data, and compile reports.
- Participate in the installation and maintenance of aeration systems in Buckeye Lake, perform periodic inspections
- Support the grant application process and implementation of grant funded projects in the watershed
- Support Soil and water staff with agricultural conservation and education activities.
- Assist Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow with organizational events (Zero K, and Carp Round up).

#### **Volunteer Activities:**

- 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.
- High school diploma or GED equivalent certificate.
- 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.
- Have and maintain a valid driver's license, auto insurance, and have reliable personal vehicle.

#### **Preferred Skills/Qualifications/Experience**

- 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 work outdoors in adverse weather conditions (heat, cold, insects, poison ivy, 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**

- **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 federal student loan forbearance while actively serving, including forgiveness of interest accrued during service (contingent upon completing the 1,700-hour requirement).
- 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.
- Licking County Soil and Water will provide additional funding for Training (\$250), Travel (\$150), Gear (\$150) and cell phone reimbursement (\$75 paid quarterly).
- Access to Volunteer healthcare and childcare when active in service. (Full Time positions only)
- Full Time AmeriCorps service is considered qualified employment for Public Service Loan Forgiveness.
- Training on the following topics: First Aid & CPR, chainsaw safety, herbicide & pesticide application. Hands on training in the environmental field, exploring this host site programs such as Farmland Preservation, USDA cost share programs, stormwater management and conservation education for youth and adults.
- Ability to serve alongside industry professionals and build a career in the environmental field!
- Potential opportunity to renew.

### 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](http://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](mailto:athiel@franklinswcd.org), with any questions regarding the AmeriCorps Program or application process.

Contact Kyle Seitz, Watershed Specialist, at [KyleSeitz@LickingSWCD.com](mailto:KyleSeitz@LickingSWCD.com) with questions about Licking County Soil & Water Watershed programs.

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