



### Upper Susquehanna Coalition Riparian Buffer Steward(s)

Office Location: Potential to work in New York in: Broome, Cortland, Chenango, Delaware, Madison, Otsego, and Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. PA: Bradford County Conservation District. Specify in cover letter which counties you would consider working in.

#### **Position Description:**

Riparian buffer stewards support the establishment of young forests, such as riparian forest buffers, throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed in New York and Pennsylvania. Stewards travel throughout a given area to monitor reforestation, perform and coordinate management activities, and write reports. Riparian and young forest restoration is a priority for water and habitat quality within the Chesapeake Bay. Stream, wetland, and agriculture team support may also be required. Stewards will work closely with a SWCD supervisor and as part of the Upper Susquehanna Coalition Buffer Team. This is a great opportunity to become involved in the work of SWCDs, and Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration. There is potential for buffer stewards to be hired full-time at SWCDs after the end of the internship.

#### **Steward tasks will include:**

- Perform tasks associated with riparian and young forest establishment, including data collection, monitoring, development of management activities and oversight of management. This will include species identification, in field measurements, and report writing.
- Perform riparian buffer implementation, including the installation and maintenance of streamside buffers with potential to provide planning and design assistance. Buffer maintenance includes weeding tree tubes, replacing protective materials, weed wacking, mowing, and management oversight.
- Provide direct, one-on-one assistance to landowners on buffer implementation and maintenance.
- Educate and coordinate with volunteer groups, landowners, and municipalities.
- Work with other stewards throughout the watershed performing similar tasks.

**Qualifications include:** Excellent verbal communication skills with interest in working with the public, valid NYS Driver's License with reliable transportation, ability to perform physically demanding work in an outdoor setting, flexibility to occasionally work weekend hours, and interest in forestry, habitat restoration or public outreach. Ability to utilize ArcGIS is preferred.

**Supervision/Location:** Stewards will be based at within counties throughout the Upper Susquehanna Watershed in New York and Pennsylvania, including but not limited to: Bradford (PA), Broome, Cortland, Chenango, Delaware, Madison, Otsego, and Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation Districts offices. The stewards will be supervised in the field by each respective district and participate in Upper Susquehanna Coalition Buffer Team events throughout the watershed. Stewards may be asked to assist in other counties for extended periods.

**Schedule:** This stewardship position is full time (40 hours per week) beginning in May/June and ending in the fall, with a potential for extension. Stewards may adjust their schedule as needed to accommodate for time off, pending approval from the SWCD. Weekend work may be required, but will likely be seldom.

**Travel:** Travel will be limited to within the Chesapeake Bay watershed in NY and northern PA. Travel is limited to day trips using a work assigned vehicle.

**Please submit a cover letter and resume to Ava Glasser at [glassera@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:glassera@tiogacountyny.gov). Applicant review will continue until all positions are filled. We anticipate interviewing for positions in February/March, and filling all positions by April/May for a May/June start date. There are 8-10 positions to be filled.**