

Prairie Rivers Network Watershed Organizer

Organization

Prairie Rivers Network is Illinois' statewide river conservation organization and an affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation. Founded in 1967, the organization is headquartered in a dynamic University community just 45 minutes from a national scenic river and within 20 minutes of one of the state's finest small mouth bass streams. Prairie Rivers works to restore and protect Illinois' rivers for the benefit of people, fish, and wildlife.

For more on Prairie Rivers, visit our website: www.prairierivers.org.

Watershed Organizer

Prairie Rivers seeks an energetic and outgoing individual to inspire Illinois citizens to protect the state's 87,000 miles of rivers and streams. This is a half-time position, consisting of approximately 20 hours a week, with the intention of eventually becoming a full-time position. The Watershed Organizer will report to the Executive Director and link the organization to groups and individuals throughout the state who share our commitment to rivers. Necessary qualifications include: understanding of, and strong commitment to, river restoration and conservation; ability to communicate technical issues to the layperson; ability to create and nurture partnerships critical to the success of the organization; proven writing and public speaking capabilities; good public relations skills; strong attention to detail; and a willingness to travel and work evenings and/or weekends as needed. The candidate must be able to work independently to set and achieve goals. Desired skills include organizing experience, computer skills, event organization, and website maintenance skills.

Primary Responsibilities:

Outreach and organizing

- ◆ Work with stakeholders (watershed groups, conservation groups, sporting and boating groups, state and federal agencies, private entities, local governmental units, regional water resource planning groups) to organize seven workshops to help build the capacity of groups engaged in pollution control and restoration projects in Illinois.
 - ◆ Workshops and trainings focus on enhancing the ability of stakeholders to collaborate effectively in order to protect their local water resources.
 - ◆ Workshop and training topics may address how to: use the Clean Water Act, communicate through the media, write effective watershed plans, implement effective best management practices, and plan campaigns.
- ◆ Partner with local conservation groups to identify opportunities, develop outreach materials, and promote trainings throughout the state.
- ◆ Represent Prairie Rivers Network in statewide stakeholder forums and outreach events.

- ◆ Inform activists through newsletters, action alerts, and electronic communication. Update website on a regular basis.

Education and public outreach

- ◆ Further develop and administer a media and public relations campaign concerning river conservation issues, including placement of PSAs and development and distribution of educational materials.
- ◆ Conduct extensive public outreach, speaking to a variety of audiences to encourage membership and interest in river conservation.
- ◆ Develop and organize river outings for members, potential members, and decision makers in Illinois.

Requirements and compensation:

Bachelor's degree required. Must have a proven dedication to conservation and environmental issues and a track record in advocacy efforts. Independent, self-motivated, with a passion for involving the public in protecting rivers is a must! Prairie Rivers Network offers an exciting, fulfilling, and challenging work environment. Salary \$18 -20K dependent on experience and qualifications.

To apply: mail or email a cover letter, resume, and three references to:

Glynnis Collins, Executive Director
Prairie Rivers Network
1902 Fox Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

gcollins@prairierivers.org

Closing date: Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled.

Prairie Rivers is an equal opportunity employer.