



Title: Watershed Inspector

JOB SPECIFICATION

A competitive, position within the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspection and Protection Division (a division of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council), contingent upon credentials and a successful interview process.

Salary Range: \$45,000-\$60,000

(salary determination based on credentials and level of experience)

Send resume to:

Dr. Adam Effler Executive Director

ajpeffler.olwmc@gmail.com

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE POSITION:

The position of Watershed Inspector performs a variety of technical and administrative duties to provide assistance to agriculture, landowners, interest groups, organizations, and units of government related to water quality management and non-point source (NPS) pollution. The employee will perform regular, yearround inspections to prevent contamination of, and pollutant discharge within, the Owasco Lake Watershed. Under general supervision of the Division Manager, the incumbent conducts surveillance of the Owasco Lake Watershed by necessary means, including vehicle, foot, and possibly boat to ensure compliance with the Watershed Rules and Regulations. The incumbent performs related work, environmental analyses and recommendations according to land use plans, and administrative duties, serving both the Owasco Lake Watershed Inspection and Protection Division and the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council on a wide variety of related projects, as required. Incumbent is under direct supervision of the Watershed Inspector and Executive Director, yet a successful candidate would be expected to demonstrate a high level of autonomy, leadership, and independent judgment when carrying out the responsibilities of the position.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

- Patrols properties of various land use (agricultural, residential, commercial, and municipal) within the Owasco Lake Watershed, its shorelines, and tributaries to identify violations of existing codes, rules and regulations and/or situations that negatively impact water quality;
- Communicates regularly with Division staff and prepares reports from data gathered through inspection activities;
- Coordinates and assists with ongoing public education activities, provides supports for the role that citizens will play in reducing the sources of pollution in the watershed and the lake;
- Conducts agricultural land use and hazardous material surveys and inventory including but not limited to pesticides, petroleum products, and road salts stored within the watershed;



- Provides on-site inspections related to erosion and sediment control disturbances and formulates reports to submit to appropriate agencies;
- Conducts regular and follow-up inspections of active construction sites within the watershed, and provides assistance to municipalities, contractors, and residents regarding storm-water regulations;
- Determines applicability of specific conservation practices and best management practices (BMP's) to mitigate NPS pollution and reviews farm plans accordingly;
- Attends training sessions and other seminars to keep current in the field as required;
- Collects a variety of water and/or soil samples for analysis relating to watershed conditions and performs field testing and analyses using a variety of equipment such as a water quality monitoring sonde;
- Performs inspections of proposed or existing sewage disposal systems;
- Tracks daily inspection activities and reports any violations to immediate supervisor and appropriate agency;
- Maintains records & completes inspection reports related to the work;
- Works with the Watershed Inspection Committee to implement its mission and reports to the monthly meeting of the Watershed Inspection Committee, the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, or other agencies such as water purveyors as requested;
- Assists with the development of annual reports and annual work plans and reviews with the Watershed Inspection Committee;
- Performs other related work as needed or assigned by Supervisor, Executive Director, or the Watershed Inspection Committee.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of agricultural resource conservation with emphasis on soil & water conservation related specifically to water quality;
- Working knowledge of land use issues, NPS pollution, remediation strategies and watershed management;
- Thorough knowledge and understanding of BMPs as they relate to NPS pollution mitigation;
- Working knowledge of agricultural engineering and surveying;
- Thorough knowledge of agricultural soils and their interrelationship with both surface and groundwater quality;
- Ability to implement GPS applications and GIS mapping technologies;
- Ability to recognize and understand the functions and schematics of various subsurface sewage disposal systems;
- Ability to understand and interpret local watershed rules and regulations and sanitary codes, and NYS DEC stormwater, water quality, and CAFO standards and regulations,
- Experience and/or credentials in erosion and sediment control and/or willingness to gain credentials;
- Experience and/or credentials in septic system inspections and/or willingness to gain credentials;
- Experience and/or credentials in farm conservation and planning and/or willingness to gain credentials;



- Ability to prepare reports related to work;
- Ability to effectively use water sampling equipment and interpret lab analysis reports;
- Ability to establish and maintain professional relationships and work cooperatively with individuals, groups, and units of government;
- Ability to communicate articulately and directly while presenting in public forums (public speaking a must);
- Ability to work efficiently with local constituents to resolve issues;
- Ability to understand and interpret topographic maps, soil surveys, engineering drawings, etc.;
- Ability to learn applicable software and technological systems to improve efficiency and capabilities with inspections;
- Physical condition commensurate with demands of the position, including the ability to traverse difficult terrain, and transport water quality testing equipment, ability to meet reasonable weight lifting demands;
- Ability to drive truck/trailer/tractor;
- Ability to work independently and manage time effectively;
- Ability to occasionally work irregular work hours including evenings and weekends as required;
- Self-motivated and detail-oriented;
- Good eyesight and ability to recognize irregularities on the landscape;
- Commitment to maintaining a positive attitude during difficult situations;
- Willingness to take direction on work assignments;
- Willingness to assist with social media and website updates;
- Good verbal and interpersonal communication skills and desire to work together well as a contributing team member;
- A results-oriented individual who has the ability to work independently towards common goals.

MINIMUM AND PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum:

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental, Physical, or Biological Sciences, or a directly related field and four years of experience related to the field of resource management, environmental science, or environmental studies; OR
- (B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered 2-year college or university with an Associate's Degree including a minimum of 12 semester credit hours in the physical & biological sciences and six years of experience related to the field of resource management, environmental science, or environmental studies;

Strongly Preferred:

- (A) Accreditation in farm conservation planning (e.g., Certified Nutrient Management Planner, CNMP);



- (B) Accreditation for erosion and sediment control on construction sites (Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control, CPESC or NYS E&SC accreditation);
- (C) Credentials and experience for the inspection of on-site septic systems.
- (D) Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university with a Master's Degree in Environmental, Physical, or Biological Sciences, or a directly related field and three years of experience related to the field of resource management, environmental science, or environmental studies.

Preferred:

- (E) Certifications in First Aid and CPR.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT(S):

- Possession of a current valid New York State Driver's License at time of appointment. From date of employment must possess and maintain NYS Driver's License. This position may require access to personal transportation to meet field work requirements made in the ordinary course of business in a timely and efficient manner.
- A successful recruit will be required to accommodate quarterly performance evaluations for the first year of employment.
- Company sponsored training for related personnel certifications may be required.

Email resume attention:

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