

# LINCOLN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT . . .



Helping Bring YOU Clean Water

200 S Co Hwy 5, Suite 2  
Ivanhoe, MN 56142  
507.694.1630 x3  
[www.mnlincolnswcd.org](http://www.mnlincolnswcd.org)

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

### Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District

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POSITION TITLE	Conservation Technician
POSITION STATUS	Full-time
STARTING SALARY RANGE	\$18- \$25/hr.; Based on qualifications, experience and Job Approval Authority (JAA)
BENEFITS	Paid Holidays, Annual Leave, Sick Leave, Medical Ins., dental and PERA Retirement
POSITION LOCATION	Lincoln SWCD, Ivanhoe, MN
HOURS	8:00 – 4:30 – Monday – Friday
CLOSING DATE	4:30 PM June 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2020

#### **POSITION PURPOSE:**

The Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District is seeking a highly motivated professional to serve as a Conservation Technician. This position will carry out technical services for the district. Overall supervision received from District Manager.

#### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

##### **Planning/Application/District Programs**

Under the supervision of the District Manager. Responsible for the operations of the Erosion control survey and design program, Conservation/CRP Planning, Drill/Seed Program, Promote and assist in the implementation of conservation practices/incentive programs on various lake/watershed projects. Will be required to achieve Conservation Planning Certification in order to write conservation plans. To be successful, must achieve the following standards.

##### **Standards**

- Use GIS/GPS tools to prepare survey and design plans for erosion control structural practices
- Ability to learn or must have knowledge in the use of Trimble GPS survey equipment
- Must obtain Job Approval Authority (JAA) in engineering for structural practices when available through NRCS
- Work with the Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area Engineer and technicians on the design of structural practices for the One Watershed One Plan Priority Areas.
- Serve on the Technical committee for the One Watershed One Plan in multiple watersheds
- Work with the SAMS modeling tool for watershed planning
- Conservation Planning, determine eligibility and develop plans for Federal CRP, CCRP, EQIP and State Cost Share Programs as needed or assigned.
- Perform field status reviews for CRP/CREP/RIM grass stands for Conservation Planning and program compliance.
- Must maintain a working knowledge of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and other farm related programs.
- Work on the development of a soil health program. Included but not limited to education, cost share development, tracking etc..
- Must obtain Certification (Job Approval Authority JAA) in selected practices for Conservation Planning.
- Inventory the county to determine priority areas eligible for enrollment in a conservation easement programs.
- Make one on one contact with landowners promoting conservation easement/farm bill programs.
- Keep the Townships informed on the Farm Bill Programs, etc. as requested/needed.
- Attend and promote above programs to the Pheasants Forever and Sportsmen's groups.

*The mission of the Lincoln SWCD* is to protect and improve the quality of our water, soil, and natural resources by providing programs and services to the citizens and owners of Lincoln County to implement conservation practices.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

- Must be able to operate a tractor, grass seeder, ranger and etc. in a safe manner.
- Be the lead person on the Drill/Seed Program. Provide expertise of selecting quality seed options for landowners in the various programs.
- Coordinate the use of the drills, seeding, billing, seed orders, etc. in a timely manner.
- Operate and plant native grasses with the rented tractors and drills as needed.
- Coordinate with the seasonal employees on drill operations, policies and schedules with landowners/operators.
- Perform maintenance and small repairs on the grass seeders.
- Adhere to SWCD Policies.
- Responsible to keep all co-workers informed on the operations of the seeding program. Including but not limited to: scheduling of drills, seed bids, maintenance needs, customer lists, billing rates, location of plantings etc.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the District Manager.

**Assist with the following programs:**

- The buffer program as needed. Such assistance may include BuffCAT tool, GIS Mapping and field measuring.
- CREP/RIM program as needed. Assist in the technical operations of the program. Field review and compliance checks, construction oversight, boundary survey and markings and etc.
- Tree program. Assist landowners with cost share options, planning, plant selection and planting of trees.
- The local water plan as needed. Work with well sealing, Ag BMP, alternative drainage practices
- Grant writing, plan writing, annual plan and Biannual Budget Request (BBR)
- The one water shed one plan process. Make contacts with landowners to promote conservation practices to meet the goals of the one watershed one plans and the local water plan.
- SAM/ACPF modeling tool for watershed scenarios.
- The Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program
- State Cost Share Program.
- Provide assistance with other staff to conduct field survey, design, layout and inspection of conservation practices for individual landowners/operators in the county.
- Tillage survey, rain gauge monitoring and well testing
- E-link State Reporting.
- Educational field days, Environmental fair, class room presentations for kids

- **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, especially Word and Excel
- Strong verbal and written communication skills for individual and group settings
- Ability to multitask and meet deadlines.
- Ability to learn new computer programs in an ever changing work environment
- Self-motivated and self-directed with ability to manage projects independently
- Must possess a valid driver's license and pass a security background check
- May be required to work outside normal business hours
- Must be able to lift over 50 pounds and be able to work in all weather and terrain conditions
- Must be able to work cooperatively and effectively with SWCD staff and other county, state, federal or conservation partner employees in an Ag Service Center environment
- Must be able to work independently or as part of a team with district staff
- Farm equipment operation and maintenance knowledge would be advantageous
- Knowledge of GIS/GPS programs
- Knowledge of farm programs or issues related to farming would be advantageous
- A Bachelors or a minimum of a two-year degree in environmental studies, natural resources, water resources, Biology, wildlife management, GIS/GPS, Ag Business, Civil Engineering or similar field of study. Prior work experience would be advantageous.

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

Individuals selected for interviews will be contacted by phone/email. Late applicants will not be considered. Finalists for the interview process will be determined after initial screening and assessment of qualifications provided in the materials submitted. Applications selected for the interview process will be contacted directly by the Lincoln SWCD.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:**

Applicants must submit a resume, SWCD application form, and two letters of reference by the closing date to:

Lincoln SWCD  
Attn: Dale Sterzinger  
200 S Co Hwy 5, Suite 2  
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

**CONTACT INFO:**

For specific questions regarding the position contact:

Dale Sterzinger  
District Manager  
[Dale.Sterzinger@mndistrict.org](mailto:Dale.Sterzinger@mndistrict.org)  
507-531-0256 Cell  
507-694-1630 ext. 112 Office

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