

Goodhue Soil and Water Conservation District

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

Employment Classification: Permanent Full-Time

Position Summary

The District Technician provides technical assistance and support in the planning, design, and implementation of conservation practices in accordance with policies established by the Goodhue County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). The position works closely with landowners, partner agencies, and program participants to promote and implement sound conservation practices that protect soil and water resources.

Supervision

This position operates under the administrative supervision of the District Manager and receives technical guidance from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

I. Conservation Planning and Implementation (60%)

- Provide technical and engineering assistance to landowners for the planning and implementation of conservation practices, including terraces, water and sediment control basins, diversions, grassed waterways, and grade stabilization structures
 - Perform project-related tasks including surveying, design, cost estimation, site staking, construction inspection, and final certification
 - Assist landowners in identifying, educating and accessing federal, state, and local funding opportunities
 - Implement conservation practices through a wide range of cost-share programs in accordance with SWCD Board priorities and resource concerns
 - Provide technical assistance to livestock producers regarding feedlot assessments, identification of resource concerns, and present corrective action possibilities to landowners and SWCD Board
 - Assist NRCS with USDA program delivery, including programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) application processing as well as conservation planning
 - Collect and analyze field data to develop conservation plans that meet landowner objectives and resource protection standards
 - Conduct follow-up site visits to evaluate installation, maintenance, and effectiveness of conservation practices
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II. SWCD Operations and Programs (30%)

- Coordinate native grass establishment programs, including seed mix recommendations and evaluation, seeding equipment calibration and maintenance, and landowner assistance
 - Promote conservation programs and practices for landowners, including but not limited to, conservation tillage, cover crops, filter strips, riparian and contour buffers, grassed waterways, and windbreaks
 - Assist in the planning and delivery of educational programs, including field days, tours, and demonstration sites
 - Support District recognition programs, including Conservation Farmer awards and related submissions
 - Provide technical assistance to ensure compliance with county soil loss ordinances
 - Assist with the Goodhue SWCD Tree Program by promoting tree sales, sorting trees and educating landowners on proper tree planting techniques.
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IV. Administrative and Operational Support (10%)

- Assist in the preparation of District reports, plans, and policy recommendations under direction of District Manager
 - Maintain accurate records of time, activities, and accomplishments for reporting and budgeting purposes
 - Complete required reporting for federals/state/local programs in accordance with established guidelines
 - Perform additional duties as assigned by District Manager and/or SWCD Board
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Performance Evaluation

Performance will be evaluated as needed but no less than an annual basis by the District Manager, with review by the Personnel Committee. An annual evaluation will be conducted by the Board of Supervisors in conjunction with compensation considerations.