

Missoula County Youth in Restoration Program

Background:

This summer the Missoula County Weed District will be implementing the 11th year of the Youth in Restoration program. Through this program, high school students contribute to land management projects and other conservation efforts by supporting agencies including the City of Missoula Conservation Lands, University of Montana Natural Areas, Lolo National Forest, Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation, Missoula County Parks, Trails and Open Lands, Great Burn Conservation Alliance, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and Five Valleys Land Trust. Participants will have the opportunity to gain hands-on skills by participating in numerous conservation activities including biological insect control collections and releases on public land, aquatic monitoring of area lakes and streams, mapping and monitoring natural resources, mechanical weed control, revegetation, and trail maintenance, and more in Missoula County and the surrounding region.

By working directly with local agencies to support natural resource conservation actions, students will develop a deeper appreciation for our public lands and a better understanding of multi-use management, and the ecological and economic balance that agencies strive to maintain. During their time as part of the Youth in Restoration crew, students will have the opportunity to work with a variety of resource professionals in many different disciplines throughout the summer, providing them with knowledge and insight into the types of career paths available in natural resource management. Furthermore, the experience gained through working with the federal and county governments will be a valuable addition to resumes and college applications.

Duties:

Four high school students will be hired to work 35-40 hours a week for 8-9 weeks during the summer of 2024.

Requirements: work in hot summer conditions in the direct sun, hike 1-5 miles at a time, handle non-threatening insects, possible camping on-site of projects, possess strong organizational skills, use GPS units (or be willing to learn), will miss no more than 4 days of employment, and ability to work as a team member.

On-the-job duties: collecting insects and data on insects and/or plants, hiking to project areas, manually removing weeds, revegetation areas with native plants, removing/installing wildlife barriers, surveying aquatic plants, plant identification, monitoring.

The students need to have the ability to get to the Missoula County Department of Ecology maintenance building (located at the Missoula County Fairgrounds property.) From this location, the crew leader will be responsible for driving students to and from work sites. Worksites will include areas throughout Missoula County and occasionally other regional sites managed by other participating organizations.

Starting Date: TBD (Week of June 10th) **Ending Date:** TBD (Week of August 19th)

Benefits: Hourly wage \$14.50/hour



Missoula County Youth in Restoration – Student Application

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Address:

Year of School Completed June of 2024: _____

Please thoroughly answer the following questions.

Why are you applying for this job?

What experience do you have that might help you with this position?

What experience do you have working outdoors?

Are you able to do strenuous physical labor (hiking 5 or more miles in hot, dry summer conditions)?

Are you willing to work early/late hours and some weekends? Yes No

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Have you used GPS units?

Yes No

How well do you work on a team? Please give an example.

What knowledge do you have concerning invasive species or noxious weeds?

Do you consider yourself to be organized? Give examples.

What do you foresee pursuing as a career? Explain

If there is anything else that you would like us to know in considering you for this position, please list it here.

List 3 references with contact information (excluding family members):

Name	Relation	Phone Number

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List past job experience:

Employer	Dates Employed	Phone Number	Reason for Leaving

Please return this application by May 3rd, 2024 to:

Missoula County Department of Ecology & Extension
Attn: Steffany Rogge
1075 South Ave W
Missoula, MT 59801

or

srogge@missoulacounty.us (emailing is the best way)

For questions, call (406) 258-4211

