

AMERICORPS PROJECT CONSERVE MEMBER SERVICE DESCRIPTION

September 1, 2010 – July 31, 2011 Service Year

Position Title: AmeriCorps Education Coordinator, 8:30 to 5 pm – Monday through Friday, with some weekend and evening work required for special events

Host Site's Name: RiverLink, Inc, P.O. Box 15488 Asheville, NC 28813-0488, www.riverlink.org

Site Supervisor: Karen Cragnolin, Executive Director, information@riverlink.org, phone 828-252-8474, fax 828-253-6846

RiverLink's Mission Statement:

RiverLink's mission is the economic and environmental revitalization of the French Broad River watershed as destination for working living and playing. We, like AmeriCorps, are trying to make the place that we live, work and play better linked through green spaces, better conserved through conservation easements, better to live in through higher density in-fill development and better protected through education and stewardship initiatives. We seek to engage the public – and most especially non-traditional audiences--- in the care, protection, stewardship, and appreciation of our water resources.

General Summary:

Reporting directly to the executive director you will be a key member of a small staff. Your primary service responsibilities include:

- Working with school children K-12, to educate and motivate them on water quality issues
- Working with teachers to integrate water quality education both as in classroom and outdoor "experiential" learning
- Developing water quality projects and experiments, evaluating projects and designing rewards/recognition programs for students in cooperation with other staff members
- Coordinating with government agencies to develop interesting programs
- Coordinating with the French Broad Riverkeeper, creek keepers and other RiverLink volunteers, staff and board members to develop and implement water quality recreational and educational events designed to connect students with the river
- Representing RiverLink at a variety of events and seminars
- Ability to take direction, research as necessary and implement projects independently
- Ability to learn new information quickly, and transmit information to a broad range of age/education levels.
- Grant writing, grant management, and research.
- Knowledge/familiarity with stream restoration and best management practices

Special conditions of service (if any): All members will participate in AmeriCorps Project Conserve sponsored events, service days, and training days. Training days will require a minimum of two overnight stays.

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities & Qualifications:

- The ideal candidate must have a good working knowledge of computers, internet, GIS, desktop publishing and web design as well as the ability to deal with media, neighborhood and business groups.
- The ideal candidate will have an environmental degree, a high comfort level speaking to large and small groups and the ability to work independently.
- The ability to communicate orally as well as in writing is essential.
- A positive attitude and a high energy level with a commitment to excellence are also essential.
- This is a position for someone who really enjoys working with people and empowering students about their environment and what they can contribute to saving the planet while getting the job at hand accomplished.
- The ideal candidate will have an undergraduate degree in one of the environmental studies, must be computer literate, must have ability to work with broad cross section of the community in terms of age, income, race and education and must be able to pass a criminal background check, as this position is highly visible within the community and region.
- Must be willing and capable of physical work throughout the year.
- An eligible member must be 18 years of age and have documentation of citizenship / naturalization / resident alien status.
- Driver's license required.