



DOUGLAS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mailing Address- PO Box 688, Franktown, CO 80116

Physical Address - 7519 E HWY 86, Franktown, CO 80116

Contact - Heather@DouglasConserves.org or (303) 218 - 2622

Position Announcement

Title: District Conservation Technician

Organization Overview: The Douglas County Conservation District (the District) is one of 74 Conservation Districts in Colorado whose functions are *to coordinate assistance from all available sources—public and private, local, state, and federal—to develop locally-driven solutions to natural resources concerns*. This position is not a federal job. The individual will be employed by the District.

Position Overview: This position will work primarily with the agricultural community to implement a wide variety of USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm Bill practices, focusing on land conservation practices. Eighty percent of the duties will be related to USDA Farm Bill Programs. The Conservation District Technician will also be called upon for a variety of Conservation District duties. Twenty percent of the duties will be dedicated to the District, focusing on community education and outreach. The District covers a diverse area spread across Douglas County, with the possibility of providing occasional services to neighboring areas. This position will work with a wide variety of agricultural producers from large-scale commodity growers to small-scale vegetable growers to new landowners with very little agricultural experience.

Pay rate: Non-exempt, \$30,000 - \$43,680, Full-time 30-40 hours per week

Benefits:

- Paid time off for Federal holidays (~10 days), vacations and sick leave (up to 2 weeks)
- Stipend for health insurance and retirement savings

Office Location: The District is co-located with the Franktown USDA-NRCS Field Office, 7519 E HWY 86, Franktown, CO 80116.

Description of the Work:

- Interprets and communicates soil conservation practice standards, specifications, policies, and cost share programs to producers
- Meets on-site with producers and contractors in the layout and application of conservation practices
- Determines preliminary cost estimates for project implementation
- Shares knowledge of and provides technical assistance to producers for the implementation of soil health principles
- Participates in other Conservation District activities such as District Board of Supervisor meetings, tree sales, annual meetings, educational events, workshops, STAR Program technical assistance, etc.
- Other duties as assigned

Coordination with NRCS

Because of the District's partnership with and support from NRCS, many aspects of the work described above occur within the context of NRCS planning processes and funding programs. Therefore, this position will also:

- Regularly communicate and attend relevant meetings with NRCS employees



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- Follow NRCS planning processes and fill out documentation to identify natural resource concerns, develop conservation plans and practices, conduct surveys for NEPA compliance, and assist landowners in applying for NRCS funding
- Utilize NRCS software such as Conservation Desktop, CART, Protracts and more.

Skills and Abilities:

- Possess a knowledge of agriculture and/or natural resources
- Work collaboratively with people and be a team player
- Self-motivated, self-directed, organized, innovative
- Communicates effectively with producers, stakeholders, and contractors
- Clear and confident verbal and written communication skills
- Discretion in maintaining confidentiality of business and client records
- Committed to safety, excellence, and professionalism
- Efficient in computer use, and able to learn new software
- Attention to detail
- Proficient in math
- Must be able to perform field work and carry a minimum of 30 lbs. of equipment

Qualifications:

- Able to pass criminal background check
- Minimum three to five years of agricultural or land conservation experience
- Associate 's Degree preferred but not necessary, preferably in agriculture or natural resources
- Hold or able to obtain a valid Colorado driver's license
- Understanding or enthusiasm to learn:
 - Colorado water rights - familiarity with policies and rules about Colorado Division of Water Resources, water shares, ditch companies, well permits, etc.
 - Education of conservation practices, noxious weed management, soil and erosion control, and forestry.
 - Local agricultural practices

Application Instructions – Application must be received by December 22, 2023

Please combine, in order, all four application items listed below into a single attachment (PDF or Word document file); and email attachment to: Heather@DouglasConserves.org

Please use this naming convention for your attachment: "Application_DCT_2023_YourLastName"

Required application materials:

- 1) Cover letter
- 2) Resume
- 3) Contact information for three professional and/or academic references
- 4) College/university transcripts, if applicable (photocopies acceptable)