Volunteer Position Description

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

Position Title: Stewardship and Restoration Volunteer Crew Member
Location: Willamette Valley Field Office, Eugene OR
Report to: Matt Benotsch, Willamette Valley Stewardship Coordinator

Position Summary:
The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a global organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Oregon, TNC owns or manages 46 nature preserves and has helped protect over 505,000 acres of important habitat. Through this volunteer placement, you will help The Nature Conservancy protect and manage these important habitats and advance our mission in Oregon by assisting with various aspects of preserve maintenance, habitat restoration, species monitoring, and general office management.

Volunteer crew members will work directly with TNC staff, and at times in a team of other volunteers or by themselves. Applicants must be available Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 am – 4 pm, June 24th – August 28th. On occasion, longer days or days other than Tuesday/Thursday may be possible, but not required. Applicants must be available Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 am – 4 pm.

Purpose: Volunteer crew members will assist TNC staff on several preserves by performing basic stewardship and restoration activities while gaining valuable practical experience in natural areas management and ecological restoration.

Typical Duties Will Include But Are Not Limited To:

- Manual and mechanical control of invasive species
- Native plant seed collection
- Native plant nursery work
- Data collection and entry
- Plant monitoring
- GPS mapping
- GIS
- Manual and mechanical control of woody species
- General office work
• Working with other volunteers

Requirements:
• MUST be available Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 am – 4 pm, June 24th – August 28th.
• High school diploma required.
• Ability to work cooperatively with TNC staff, other volunteers, and external parties in order to complete project goals in a timely manner.
• Strong written and verbal communication skills.
• Ability to coordinate multiple projects with several variables and meet deadlines.
• Proven organizational skills and strong attention to detail.
• Working knowledge of common software applications (Word, Excel, Web browsers).
• Ability to perform physical service, sometimes under adverse conditions or in inclement weather.
• Ability to recognize or learn plant and animal species as required to perform preserve management activities, or ability to learn new species.

Length of appointment: June 24th – August 28th, 2014, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 am – 4 pm.

Time commitment: 150 hours minimum

Support provided: You will work directly with the Willamette Valley Stewardship Team members in various restoration and conservation projects. Appropriate orientations to sites, safety protocols, and restoration practices will be provided on an ongoing basis. Willamette Valley TNC staff will be available throughout the appointment to address questions or concerns.

Benefits: You will play an important role in furthering the conservation goals of The Nature Conservancy. You will gain valuable practical experience in natural areas management and ecological restoration alongside Conservancy professionals. There will be ample opportunities to learn the tools and techniques of land stewardship and vegetation management, to work outdoors in scenic natural settings, and to learn more about the ecology and natural history of the Willamette Valley.

How to Apply: E-mail your résumé and cover letter as one document to Molly Dougherty at mdougherty@tnc.org by May 26, 2014.

Contact:
Molly Dougherty, Director of Volunteer Programs, The Nature Conservancy in Oregon, 821 SE 14th Avenue, Portland, Oregon, 97214: (503) 802-8100 or mdougherty@tnc.org.