



Seasonal Meadow Research Technician

Location

Teatown is a non-profit 1,000 acre nature preserve and education center located in Westchester County, NY that hosts over 20,000 visitors annually. We host a variety of education programs for all ages and provide valuable recreational opportunities across 15 miles of hiking trails. Teatown is home to several different habitats for wildlife, including forests, wetlands, lakes, and meadows.

Position overview

Meadows provide an abundance of food resources for pollinators, nesting habitat for grassland birds, and shelter for small mammals. Fire suppression, agriculture, and human development over the last 200 years have drastically reduced the amount of meadow habitat remaining in the northeast. Teatown is working to restore these early successional habitats designed to increase biodiversity of both flora and fauna. To track the success of our management methods, vegetation data is collected along transects every three years. One of the primary goals of this position is to collect cool and warm-season vegetation data for each of the fields at Teatown.

In addition, the Meadow Research Technician will be responsible for checking bluebird boxes weekly, watering and maintaining plantings in restoration areas, surveying for key invasive species in the fields, collecting and pressing samples for the meadow herbarium, and collecting native seeds for propagation. The Research Technician will often work independently, with occasional collaborative work with volunteers and other Teatown staff. Technicians can expect to gain data collection experience, improve plant identification skills, enhance communication skills and learn the fundamentals of land management practices.

Hours: 3-4 weekdays, flexible.

Rate: \$21/hr, 20hrs/week for 12 weeks. Start date flexible.

Responsibilities:

- Collect data for meadow monitoring transects.
- Collect and press samples for meadow herbarium.
- Collect native seeds for propagation.
- Monitor growth of key invasive species.
- Monitor Bluebird boxes weekly and upload data to Nestwatch.
- Water tree saplings and monitor growth in restoration areas.
- Remove isolated patches of invasive species from fields and hedgerows.
- Other stewardship responsibilities as needed, such as working with volunteers.



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Requirements:

- An interest in land conservation and ecology.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively.
- Baseline plant identification knowledge and ability to use dichotomous keys and other resources to identify plants. Prior experience with grass ID preferred.
- Ability to work outside in a variety of environmental conditions (e.g. heat, humidity, rain).
- Proof of full COVID-19 vaccination sequence, including booster shot(s) where applicable

TO APPLY: Please submit cover letter & resume to rpolicello@teatown.org. Applications accepted until position is filled.