

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is technical work concerning present and future environmental issues relating to water quality. The Environmental Specialist's responsibilities include applying scientific methods and principles in the identification, research and solution of problems in the areas of environmental monitoring, illegal discharge of waste to the lands and waters, point and nonpoint source pollution, wildlife management, habitat protection and restoration, wetland restoration, riparian habitat, land and water use, agricultural return flows, timber harvesting, streambed alterations and watershed evaluation. Work is performed under the direct supervision of the Watershed Manager in carrying out the objectives associated with watershed management. Supervision is not typical of this class.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

- Conducts investigations on matters such as water storage, wastewater discharge, pollutants, permits, or other compliance and regulatory issues;
- Develops plans to protect watershed health or rehabilitate watersheds;
- Develops strategies for watershed operations to meet water supply and conservation goals or to ensure regulatory compliance with clean water laws or regulations;
- Identify and characterize specific causes or sources of water pollution;
- Collects environmental data;
- Assesses health and productivity of natural resources and provide objectives for the natural resources;
- Performs forest health and invasive species inventory and assessment;
- May assist in updating and modifying Geographic Information Systems database;
- Performs related work as required.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Good knowledge of the practical application of science and technology, including applying methods, principles, techniques and procedures;
- Good knowledge of principles and methods for describing the features of land and water, including their physical characteristics, locations, interrelationships, and distribution of plant, animal, and human life;
- Good knowledge of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, statistics, and their applications;
- Good knowledge of personal computers and office equipment;
- Ability to determine how changes in conditions, operations, and the environment will affect outcomes;
- Ability to follow oral and written directions;
- Dependability;
- Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or one accredited by the NYS Board of Regents to grant degrees with a Bachelor's Degree (or higher) in Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science or a related field and two (2) years full-time paid experience in natural resource management or a related field; **OR**
- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or one accredited by the NYS Board of Regents to grant degrees with an Associate's Degree in Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science or a related field and four (4) years full-time paid experience in natural resource management or a related field; **OR**
- C. Any equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) and (B) above.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

- Must possess a valid NYS Driver's License at the time of appointment and for the duration of employment.
- Must obtain a NYS Pesticide Applicator's License within two years of appointment.
- Must complete a Coast Guard approved Boating Safety Course within six months of appointment.