

Employment Opportunity with Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves

Position: Natural Heritage Botany Technician

Full-time seasonal position

Duration: 9-month

Wage: \$16.25/hour

Applications due: 3/20/2024



Position Summary:

The Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves protects some of the last remaining high-quality natural communities in Kentucky, monitors and recovers rare species and natural communities, conducts biological inventories of natural areas (private and public land) across Kentucky, and houses the states' natural heritage biodiversity databases. The botany technicians assist OKNP botanists, ecologists with vegetation surveys and plant monitoring projects across the state on private and public natural areas. Extensive statewide travel, including routine and extended overnight travel, is required

Visit our website to learn more about our agency

<https://eec.ky.gov/Nature-Preserves/Pages/default.aspx>

Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying plants and natural communities
- Conducting vegetation plot sampling
- Performing floristic inventories and assessments of natural areas
- Collecting and managing data
- Pollinator data collection
- native plant seed collection
- Monitoring and managing rare plants and communities
- Controlling exotic species
- Participating in fire management activities as a member of the OKNP burn crew



Qualifications and Minimum Requirements:

- Thirty credit hours in college biology, natural resources, or related field, or a high school diploma and one year of employment experience in natural resources
- Applicant must possess valid driver's license
- Applicants must be able to use dichotomous keys to identify species. Priority will be given to those individuals who have strong plant identification skills
- Applicants must be able to hike for extended periods of time under adverse field conditions and over uneven terrain
- Encouragement for participation in prescribed fire activities; on-the-job trainings will be provided
- Willingness and ability to travel overnight for up to a week at a time
 - state vehicle will be provided, meals and lodging will be reimbursed
- Seldom weekend or alternative hours may be required for specific projects

Working Conditions:

- Selected candidates are/may be exposed to biting/stinging insects, venomous snakes, poison ivy, and adverse weather conditions (precipitation, temperature, and humidity extremes)
- Individuals will often work in remote areas away from facilities and roads.

How to Apply: Interested individuals should send an electronic copy of your resume and cover letter to tara.littlefield@ky.gov.