



## Forest Health Temporary Technician

**Position:** The University of Kentucky's Department of Forestry and Natural Resources seeks a Temporary Technician to join the Forest Health Extension team. This individual will assist with a mix of outreach, education and applied research related to forest health threats (e.g., invasive plants, insect pests, pathogens) and their management. They will be expected to engage a diverse range of audiences in different contexts (from rural woodlands to urban forests) through Extension online resources, social media, and programing. They will assist with applied research to better understand forest health threats and management practices.

### **Major job responsibilities include:**

*Assist with developing Extension resources and programs related to forest health*

- Manage online resources (website and social media accounts)
- Assist in conducting Extension programing (virtual programs over Zoom and potential in-person in the future as safety guidelines allow)
- Focus on outreach related to emerging forest health threats in western Kentucky

*Assist with applied research related to forest health, for example...*

- Field work looking at laurel wilt disease's distribution and impact
- Laboratory work to isolate cultures of plant pathogens, extract DNA, and prepare samples for sequencing
- Greenhouse work to assess the virulence and pathogenicity of fungi

**Qualifications:** Position requires an undergraduate degree in forestry, natural resources, biology, or a related field. A strong work ethic and ability to work both independently and as part of a team are essential. Because the focus of outreach work will be in western KY, must be willing to travel there as needed (likely several days per month) or be based in that region.

Preferred qualifications include:

- Work experience in forestry and/or in forest health management
- Work experience in a laboratory setting (DNA extraction, sterile technique)
- Graduate coursework in forestry, entomology, or plant pathology
- Social media and video editing experience

**Pay Range:** \$13-20/ hour based on experience.

**Hours:** 15-37.5 hours/ week. Flexible depending on applicant's experience and availability.

**How to Apply:** To be considered for this position, send a cover letter and resume to Dr. Ellen Crocker, Assistant Professor of Forest Health Extension, [e.crocker@uky.com](mailto:e.crocker@uky.com) by Feb 1, 2021.