

Open Position: Field Technician

Title: Field Technician

Reports to: Restoration Program Manager

Status: Exempt; Full-Time Temporary, 3 months with possibility of additional time

Organization: Friends of the Verde River

Friends of the Verde River is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works collaboratively for a healthy, flowing Verde River system. Friends envision a healthy, flowing Verde River and tributaries that support our unique environment, vibrant economy, and quality of life for future generations. Friends of the Verde River is a hybrid work organization.

Position Summary:

Friends of the Verde River is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a seasonal Field Technician position based out of our Cottonwood, AZ, office. This position will support a vegetation monitoring crew and upland restoration crews. During the spring monitoring season (April - June), the employee will mostly work in the field, working eight 10-hour workdays followed by 6 days off.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Coordinate, supervise, and complete quality control for field crew work, including invasive plant monitoring and upland restoration projects under guidance of program manager.
2. Provide field support for crews including lining out crews and working in the field on projects.
3. Collect riparian vegetation data along streams (riparian forest corridors) in the Verde River watershed according to established monitoring protocols.
4. Assist in maintenance, creation and quality control of Field Maps for ArcGIS applications for crew use in the field.
5. Contact landowners to arrange crew access and serve as organization contact while crews are on the property.
6. Keep records of crew accomplishments for use in reporting.
7. Writing reports based on crew accomplishments.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate degree in related field and/or GIS Certification preferred; AA is accepted with sufficient related coursework in botany, ecology, wetland science, natural resource management, GIS or other related fields
- Coursework in botany, ecology, wetland science, natural resource management, geotech, GIS, or a related field

- Able to identify plants in the field and collect vegetation data following established field protocols
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills (both verbal and written)
- Ability to work independently and communicate effectively in a remote/hybrid work environment.
- Skilled with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Local and regional travel required; reliable transportation, valid driver's license and auto insurance required
- Must be available to work a flexible schedule including occasional nights and weekends, with some overnight camping
- Willing to work a 10 hour/day schedule seasonally including occasional weekends seasonally when out in the field with field crews
- Ability to demonstrate the right to work in the U.S., subject to E-Verify Employment Verification

Preferred Qualifications:

- Knowledge of invasive and native plants of Arizona and the Verde River watershed
- Conservation corps or other field crew coordination and leadership experience
- Experience working in a hybrid work environment in an independent or crew management setting.
- Experience with operation and safety practices of heavy power tools including chainsaws
- Existing Wilderness First Aid and/or Wilderness First Responder Certification or able to be certified

Physical Requirements:

- To successfully perform essential functions, the individual is required to sit, stand, walk, speak, hear, etc. May be required to stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl for significant periods of time and be able to safely lift 50 pounds on a routine basis.
- Work to be performed in arduous conditions in all types of weather, dust, and extreme summer and winter temperatures.
- Ability to hike in rough terrain, off trail over many miles per day.
- Must be able to drive a 4x4 vehicle loaded with equipment or materials on remote, primitive, unmaintained dirt roads, while continually assessing staff and equipment safety during work shifts.
- Must be able to operate office equipment, telephone, computer, reach with hands and arms, and use hand tools such as picks, shovels, and other tools.
- Reasonable accommodation may be made for qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Desired Characteristics:

- Commitment to Friends' mission and vision.
- Motivated and driven to success.

- Demonstrated ability to build positive working-relationships with team members and diverse constituents.
- Demonstrated ability to maintain calm in a fast-paced, team environment.
- Ability to stay on task and meet deadlines and goals for multiple activities.
- Strong attention to detail

The office is located at 115 S. Main Street, Suite B. Cottonwood, Arizona. Friends is operating as a hybrid workplace, with most office-type work being conducted remotely. This is not, however, a remote work position. Compensation includes a competitive salary commensurate with experience, in the range of \$20.00 to \$25.00 per hour, plus an excellent package of benefits.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The preferred start date is April 1, 2025.

Please send application materials in one pdf file (cover letter, resume, and a minimum of two professional references) to jobs@verderiver.org.