



Amador Resource Conservation District
12200 B Airport Road, Jackson CA 95642

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT HEALTHY SOILS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONSULTANT (TAC)

The Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD) is currently accepting applications for the position of Healthy Soils TAC to provide technical assistance to agricultural landowners.

The ARCD promotes resource conservation in agriculture by educating and assisting landowners and works closely with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). The District is organized under the California Public Resources Code, Division 9, a Special District of the State, and is led by a five-member, volunteer Board of Directors appointed by the Amador County Board of Supervisors. The ARCD is a dynamic not-for-profit entity, with staff who implement the Board of Director's Annual Plan and Long Range Plan to address resource concerns and opportunities within Amador County.

General Description:

The Technical Assistance Consultant will work with the ARCD District Manager to provide soil health and other conservation practices information to farmers and ranchers through educational events and workshops. The Consultant will identify and prioritize at least six motivated producers to provide one-on-one assistance to develop proposals for Healthy Soils Program Incentive Grants. The Consultant will then provide technical assistance on implementation and reporting for producers that are awarded funding through the Healthy Soils Program. The Consultant must be able to communicate with farmers and ranchers successfully, assess agricultural resources and the producers' operation and offer appropriate conservation management practices.

Ideally, some landowners will be motivated to develop healthy soils conservation plans and/or carbon farm plans to guide the implementation of practices. The Consultant will provide technical assistance to those landowners as funding allows to plan for soil health, Green House Gas (GHG) reduction, and carbon sequestration.

The greatest work demand will take place in the first three months, when applications are prepared and submitted to the Healthy Soils Incentive Program and may require 20 or more hours per week. After the initial period, assisting landowners in implementing practices and reporting to the Healthy Soils Program will be spread over a three year period. However, there is a strong possibility that there will be additional work opportunities contingent upon funding.

Work will require site visits to farming/ranching operations in Amador County, CA. The Amador RCD Office is located at 12200 B Airport Road, Jackson CA.

Required Qualifications:

- Experience in agriculture
- Ability to assist in the preparation of applications, implementation of conservation practices, and grant reporting.
- Ability to meet with private landowners to educate them about healthy soils best management practices and the healthy soils incentives program.
- Ability to lift up to 40 pounds and walk on uneven terrain for an extended period of time.
- Valid CA State driver's license and proof of insurance.
- Ability to pass security clearance; including reference check, background investigation, and/or criminal history inquiry.

Desired Qualifications:

- Bachelor or Master of Science Degree in Natural Resources, Soils, Agriculture, Environmental Science, or equivalent education and experience.
- The ideal candidate would have a technical certification/professional license, though not required.
- Experience conducting resource inventories and analyzing the data for development of conservation plans and grant applications
- Knowledge and experience working with computers. Ability to type and use Microsoft Office programs, including Word, Excel, Access and Publisher, and GIS software programs.
- Professional knowledge of a wide range of soil and water conservation principles, methods and techniques sufficient to skillfully assess, analyze and evaluate environmental concerns
- Knowledge and experience using standard office equipment, including copier, fax, phone system, and special equipment.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong customer service skills, including experience working with private landowners.
- Strong organizational and collaborative skills
- Experience and knowledge of natural resources and agriculture in the California Foothills and/or Amador County.
- Understanding of agriculture and irrigated lands and understanding of soil health principles and best management practices.
- Strong ability to interpret and follow rules and regulations.

Duties:

1. Implement project deliverables for the Amador RCD; in particular, tasks in grant agreements received from CDFA Healthy Soils Program.
2. Meet with private landowners to educate them about healthy soils best management practices and the healthy soils incentives program and assist in preparing of applications, implementation of practices and reporting.
3. Assist landowners in application development including: Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Quantification Methodologies (QMs) and calculator tools, and other program specific tools.
4. Assist landowners with on-farm implementations such as: coordinating with service providers for installations of practices, grant management such as scope of work revisions, budget revisions, invoicing and reporting.
5. Assist with the RCD's outreach and educational activities, including production of materials (newsletters, pamphlets, surveys, etc.) and special events (workshops, etc.) to promote program.
6. Develop resource inventories, analyze data and develop alternatives related to conservation conditions. Provide qualitative evaluations of those conditions from which landowners can make resource treatment decisions for their forest or other agricultural lands.

COMPENSATION: \$25/hour- \$35/hour based on demonstrated experience and the ability to work independently.

Proposal Application and Submission:

Copies of this vacancy announcement are available on the Amador Resource Conservation District website at: www.AmadorRCD.org

Application Packet should include: Cover letter, resume, and list of at least three work references.

Position is open until filled, position may be filled anytime during the application period.

Electronic copies of the proposal package addressing all criteria **must be received at the latest by February 11th 2020** delivered to the following email address: **Amanda@AmadorRCD.org**

If you have further questions about this consultation opportunity, please contact Amanda Watson at (916) 612-5163 or Amanda@AmadorRCD.org