

Teatown Lake Reservation **Land Steward** Job Description

Title: Land Steward

Summary of Position:

Teatown Lake Reservation is an education center and membership organization located on a 1,000-acre nature preserve in the Lower Hudson Valley. Our mission is to inspire our community to lifelong environmental stewardship. Teatown maintains more than 15 miles of trails and hosts over 20,000 visitors annually.

The Land Steward is an integral part of Teatown Lake Reservation's Stewardship Team and is instrumental for operationalizing the goals and objectives in accordance with our Strategic Plans and Stewardship Framework. This position offers an opportunity to contribute to crucial conservation efforts while developing practical field skills in land management.

Reports To: This position reports to the Director of Stewardship.

Principle Duties and Responsibilities:

Habitat Management (30-35%)

- Carry out habitat management activities as specified in Teatown's Stewardship Framework
- Manage invasive species and plant native species
- Monitor and maintain existing projects and priority areas (Wildflower Woods, Wildflower Island, large plantings, trail projects, garden areas, etc.)
- Assist with lake management activities

Trail and Grounds Maintenance (30-35%)

- Conduct routine checks of all trails twice a month.
- Perform regular and annual maintenance of all meadow areas and trails including mowing and the removal of invasive hedgerows.

 Establish and manage a volunteer network to regularly walk and report on trails with the Stewardship Program Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator

Natural Resource Management (10-15%)

- Collect seeds and record populations of native species within Teatown's property
- Help maintain propagation area (regular mulching, weeding, watering, cutting back invasives)
- Propagate native plants for use in various restoration projects
- assist with wildlife management programs

Data Collection and Safety (10-15%)

- Collect and manage data relevant to Teatown's mission (nest boxes, Spotted Lantern Fly, Beech Leaf Disease, etc.)
- Assist with the implementation of new projects that support Teatown's research and conservation goals
- Monitor and report hazardous conditions to ensure visitor safety, mitigating hazards when possible

Facilities and Equipment Maintenance (5-10%)

- Perform general upkeep and repair of tools and equipment
- Assist facilities team as periodically, as necessary

Qualifications:

- 2+ years of appropriate work experience in a related field is required. A bachelor's degree in natural resource management or related field is a plus.
- Experience with forest management practices including tree felling and hazard tree removal
- Experience using equipment such as chainsaws, ATVs, farm tractors, and backhoes is a plus
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work independently as well as in groups
- Experience working with volunteers and the public
- Knowledge of native and invasive plant identification preferred

This is a full-time position with a regular work week of Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM, including 1-hour lunch break. Weekend and evening work may be required on occasion.

Salary: \$50,000 -\$55,000/year, plus generous benefits package: 403(b) retirement plan with employer match; paid time off, including annual leave, sick leave, personal days, and federal and floating holidays.

<u>Instructions:</u> To apply, please send your résumé and cover letter to Thom Almendinger, Director of Stewardship, at <u>talmendinger@teatown.org</u>. No phone calls, please.