

AMERICORPS PROJECT CONSERVE MEMBER SERVICE DESCRIPTION

September 1, 2011 – July 31, 2012 Service Year

Title: AmeriCorps Education Coordinator

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Monday through Friday, with some weekend and evening work required for special events

Host Site: RiverLink, Inc., 170 Lyman Street, Asheville, NC 28813-0488, www.riverlink.org

Site Supervisor: Karen Cragolin, Executive Director, information@riverlink.org,

Phone: 828-252-8474 ext 16, fax: 828-253-6846

RiverLink's Mission Statement:

RiverLink's mission is the economic and environmental revitalization of the French Broad River watershed as destination for working, living and playing. We, like AmeriCorps, are trying to make the place that we live, work and play better linked through green spaces, better conserved through conservation easements, better to live in through higher density in-fill development and better protected through education and stewardship initiatives. We seek to engage the public – and most especially non-traditional audiences--- in the care, protection, stewardship, and appreciation of our water resources.

Main purpose of this position: Primary duties will consist of environmental education and outreach for the public. This will involve developing lessons for school groups, water quality lessons in the creek (project WET and other curriculum) and the use of interactive technology to facilitate learning. There will also be lessons and training outside of the classroom for summer camps and the general public.

General Summary: Reporting directly to the executive director you will be a key member of a small staff. Your primary service responsibilities include:

- Working with school children K-12, to educate and motivate them on water quality issues
- Working with teachers to integrate water quality education both as in classroom and outdoor "experiential" learning
- Developing water quality projects and experiments, evaluating projects and designing rewards/recognition programs for students in cooperation with other staff members
- Coordinating with government agencies to develop interesting programs
- Coordinating with RiverLink volunteers, staff and board members to develop and implement water quality recreational and educational events designed to connect students with the river
- Representing RiverLink at a variety of events and seminars
- Ability to take direction, research as necessary and implement projects independently
- Ability to learn new information quickly, and transmit information to a broad range of age/education levels.
- Grant writing, grant management, and research.
- Knowledge/familiarity with stream restoration and best management practices

Special conditions of service (if any): All members will participate in AmeriCorps Project Conserve sponsored events, service days, and training days. Most training days will be hosted in the Asheville/Hendersonville area and will require overnight stays at least twice during the year.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Knowledge of computers and internet
- Ability to deal with media, neighborhood and business groups
- A college degree
- Comfort speaking to large and small groups and the ability to work independently
- The ability to communicate both orally and on paper
- Positive attitude and a high energy level with a commitment to excellence.
- An eligible member must be 18 years of age and have documentation of citizenship/naturalization/resident alien status and have a strong commitment to community service and conservation.