

Employment Position Open:  
Native Plant Program - Seasonal Technician

Posted Jan. 17, 2024

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to [anchoragewcd@gmail.com](mailto:anchoragewcd@gmail.com). The position will remain open until it is filled, with the first review of applications beginning February 15, 2024. Please email questions to Dana, [nativeplants.aswcd@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplants.aswcd@gmail.com).

Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District (ASWCD) was re-established in November of 2021 after many years of inactivity. Since then, we have grown from one part-time employee to four full-time plus one part-time staff, soon adding two-three more positions. The Native Plant Program Technician will play a critical role in the development of Alaska's native plant production and ASWCD's program development.

**Required Qualifications:**

- Must be deeply interested in the production of native plants in Alaska and our conservation issues.
- You will need reliable transportation, with the ability to commute and deliver supplies to native plant nurseries throughout Southcentral Alaska: Eklutna, Palmer, Butte, Wasilla, and Anchorage.
  - Gas is reimbursed at the federal rate, currently (\$0.655 per mile)
- Self-directed, yet able to work cooperatively as a team player.
- Must possess an understanding and curiosity about how plants grow and relate to our ecosystems.
- Be attentive to details, observant, honest, and reliable.
- A willingness to occasionally work outside during inclement weather.

**Duties:**

- Lead Seed Collections - The Native Plant Technician will coordinate and be responsible for:
  - Determining/scouting particular chosen species locations,
  - Observations which will determine optimal collection timing based on seed maturity,
  - Obtaining permission from landowners,
  - Organizing seed collection opportunities for all districts, ASWCD employees, and volunteers,
  - Sharing and entering data for collections and outplantings.
- Assist with general native plant nursery tasks:
  - Propagate and care for native plants,
  - Start seedlings,
  - Utilize proper irrigation techniques,
  - Employ best management greenhouse/nursery practices,
  - Monitor plants, record data and inventory, follow protocols and seeding schedules,
  - Step-up pot sizes, mix soil, lay landscaping fabric, build boxes,
  - Utilize IPM (Integrated Pest Management), pull weeds, deter pests,
  - Wash and sanitize recycled pots,
  - Organize logistics, source and deliver supplies.

## **Duties continued:**

- Assist with ASWCD's/ Alaska's native plant program development.
- Attend collaborative meetings and training opportunities.
- Help organize outreach events and opportunities for growers, and generate salvage opportunities.
- Support our local districts' native plant nurseries/growers (Eklutna TCD, Knik TCD, and PSWCD).
- Sow and grow native plants for the Chugach National Forest, Resurrection Creek restoration project.
- Experiment with growing: veg-mats, sedge-mats, wetland dominant species, berries, grasses, forbes, sedges, and rushes - from seed; and woody stocks from dormant cuttings.

## **An Ideal candidate:**

- Will utilize great communication skills.
- Be able to work from home, but meet in person; when reasonable.
- Is comfortable with farm and landscaping related physical labor, tools and machinery (shoveling, digging, moving pots, lifting bags, planting trees, able to lift 50 lbs).
- Is willing to post and respond to social media on behalf of our organization.
- Wants to help collect and grow out native seeds for restoration projects.
- Is able to identify and collect local native plants and seeds.
- Possess a willingness to learn the details for each species' propagation and restoration techniques.
- Is patient, and kind; and flexible with others' schedules.

## **Hours, Wages, and Benefits:**

This full-time (40 hrs/week) hourly position will start at \$21-25 per hour DOE. This is a full-time seasonal position, beginning in early May and ending in late September. Seasonal positions are un-benefited and do not earn PTO or holiday pay.

Our office is located at 911 West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 101 in downtown Anchorage.

The Native Plant Program Technician will be working directly with the Native Plant Program Leader, who works from home in Palmer.

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to [anchorageswcd@gmail.com](mailto:anchorageswcd@gmail.com).

Alternative application methods will not be seen or accepted.