

ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Job Announcement: Resource Planning Specialists – Local Work Groups

Subcontract Opportunity with AISWCD – Open to all Illinois SWCD Employees/Districts

The Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts (AISWCD) is seeking qualified individuals for the positions of **Resource Planning Specialist**. This exciting subcontract opportunity allows Illinois SWCD employees to assist in advancing conservation priorities under the new NRCS IRA-funded agreement. The position is designed to complement your current role at your SWCD while contributing to NRCS area-wide conservation efforts. Subcontracts allow districts to allocate a portion of their time to this initiative while continuing their primary District roles.

Position Overview

As a Resource Planning Specialist, you will be instrumental in advancing Local Workgroup Planning and Climate Smart Agriculture outreach and education in your NRCS area. Your work will directly support conservation priorities, fostering soil health, clean water, and climate resilience.

As a Resource Planning Specialist, you will play a vital role in supporting AISWCD and NRCS initiatives, including:

- Helping to organize and facilitate Local Work Group (LWG) meetings in your area.
- Assisting AISWCD with outreach and marketing materials to local stakeholders, new customers and partners.
- Providing training, support and guidance to SWCD employees on how to best facilitate LWG meetings in their Districts.
- Assisting with grant reporting that meets NRCS guidelines.

Position Details

- **Pay Rate**: \$31.25/hour + 20% fringe benefits, with some reimbursement for travel and supplies. Salary to be paid to the District by AISWCD on a reimburseable.basis. AISWCD will submit monthly invoices to NRCS to request reimbursement on the District's behalf.
- Hours: Flexible and negotiable.
- Location: Your NRCS area but you will be based out of your District office. Some travel will be required but most meetings can be held virtually.
- **Duration**: Subcontract can be for the three-year duration of the NRCS IRA-funded agreement or less depending on the preference of the applicant and AISWCD.

Key Responsibilities

- Support and help invigorate Local Work Group planning across Illinois.
 - o Organize and facilitate at least one Local Work Group meeting per year in participating Districts.
 - Assist in the preparation of reports following the Local Work Group Guidebook.



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- Support stakeholder outreach with AISWCD assistance.
- Climate Smart Agriculture Outreach and Education:
 - o Support outreach activities, including in-person and virtual events to engage new customers.
 - o Assist in creating and promoting learning experiences for producers, landowners, and communities.

Benefits for Participating Districts

- Opportunity to contribute to impactful statewide conservation initiatives.
- Flexible time commitments that align with your current SWCD responsibilities.
- Generous pay and reimbursement for travel and supplies.
- Participation in innovative conservation efforts to support soil health, clean water, and climate-smart agriculture.

How to Apply

Interested Illinois SWCD employees should submit a brief statement of interest, highlighting relevant experience and availability, to Ashley Curran at ashley.curran@aiswcd.org. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and positions will remain open until filled.

AISWCD is committed to working closely with Districts to ensure flexibility and success in these efforts. Join us in advancing Illinois's conservation priorities while strengthening the role of our Illinois SWCDs.

For questions or to apply, please contact Ashley Curran at <u>ashley.curran@aiswcd.org</u> or 815-901-7564.