



Ecological Restoration Crew Member

Contact for interested Members: Claire Ilersich, NOWCorps Member Coordinator at claire@tinkerscreek.org or 330-963-6863 x5104. Applications preferred by August 1, 2023, but position is open until filled.

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) watershed organization officially established in 2006. Our mission is to protect and restore water quality and habitats of the Tinker's Creek watershed through community partnerships. The Tinker's Creek watershed drains 96.4 square miles and is the largest tributary to the Cuyahoga River. The watershed area spans 24 communities in Cuyahoga, Summit, Portage, and Geauga counties.

Together with our partners, **The Nature Conservancy (TNC)** recognizes the importance of maintaining water quality throughout Northern Ohio. We also believe in educating the public and regional leaders to support behavioral changes that positively affect our water resources. The Northern Ohio Watershed Corps (NOWCorps) works with watershed groups, soil and water conservation districts, city and county government offices, and other conservation nonprofits to facilitate outreach, education, capacity building, environmental stewardship, and stormwater management.

The Nature Conservancy has long been a leader in advancing restoration, stewardship, and education of natural areas in Northeastern Ohio (NEOH). TNC is inviting NOWCorps member applications for a three-pronged approach to restoration in Northeast Ohio. First, through the NEOH Restoration Team, members will conduct restoration and stewardship across Northeast Ohio. Second, through work with the Dr. James K. Bissell Nature Center, members will provide educational opportunities and programming for school children and visitors. Third, through work with the Central Lake Erie Basin staff, members will maintain visitor facilities at our public preserves. Team members will have opportunities to work with multiple partners on a variety of natural areas throughout NEOH. Rustic housing (3-bedroom cabin) is available on site for \$150/month. Residents may have roommates.

AmeriCorps, a federal agency, brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges, through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities. AmeriCorps helps make service to others a cornerstone of our national culture. Learn more at AmeriCorps.gov.

Skills and Qualifications: Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must have a valid driver's license, be insured, and have own transportation; eligible mileage will be reimbursed for service-related travel. Must successfully pass a comprehensive background and criminal investigation check. Must have an interest in or plan to pursue a career in biology, natural resources, land management, education, tourism, economic development, planning, marketing, or related field. Must be self-motivated and able to work independently and in a team. Must possess good organizational and communication skills and be capable of working with little supervision. Must be able to develop and maintain effective working relationships with employees and the public. Demonstrates maturity, cultural competency, and garner

respect of all populations. Experience communicating with diverse audiences preferred. Some working knowledge or experience performing land management tasks, identifying native and invasive plants, and using GPS and ArcGIS is preferred, as is interest and passion for education and working with the public. Usual hours of service will be Monday – Friday during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The ability to serve flexible hours, including weekend days and some evenings, is needed. Scheduled hours may fluctuate, increase, or decrease in consideration of seasonal changes such as inclement weather or other extended activities.

The NOWCorps member will receive programmatic training in addition to site specific training. Programmatic training is provided monthly and covers a variety of topics. Training content may include, but is not limited to first aid, CPR, volunteer engagement, native species planting techniques, stormwater permit requirements, facilitating public involvement, public education, etc.

Location: ***The Nature Conservancy, Grand River Conservation Campus at Morgan Swamp Preserve
3973 Callender Road, Rock Creek, OH 44084***

Reports to: ***Northeast Ohio Conservation Coordinator, Marcel Weigand***

Duties and Responsibilities of the AmeriCorps member:

General Member Responsibilities

- Promote the Northern Ohio Watershed Corps through education and outreach activities
- Enhance skills and knowledge applicable to position through participation in related workshops, conferences, and training
- Plan, Facilitate, and Participate in group service projects for National Days of Service
- Attend all NOWCorps required meetings and trainings
- Complete activity & data reports monthly, required timesheets weekly, and any other reporting in a timely manner in the OnCorps online system
- All other duties as assigned within the limitations of this member description

Host Site Responsibilities

- Perform ecological restoration activities in NEOH, with a focus on survey and control of invasive species through chemical and mechanical applications
- Safe operating of vehicles, equipment, and machinery: including ATV's chainsaws, brush cutters, back-pack sprayer, and hand tools
- Responsible for equipment preparation, use, and maintenance as well as use of GPS unit and related devices
- Assist with accurate record keeping and reporting
- Work with TNC staff and Bissell Nature Center volunteers to provide high quality educational programming to students and the public
- Create content for nature center programming (i.e. press releases, fliers, and newsletter content)
- Assist with maintenance of public preserves (mowing, trail & equipment maintenance, etc.)
- Communicate to staff, volunteers, and the public about their work

Additional activities that fall within the goals of the program may be assigned with approval of the member, site supervisor, and NOWCorps staff.

Additional information: **The Nature Conservancy** is accessible to individuals with disabilities. **The Nature Conservancy**, Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners, and the Northern Ohio Watershed Corps will adhere to all regulations concerning nondiscrimination and equal opportunity regulations as outlined in federal and state law. This program will be made available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, marital or parental status, genetic information, military service, and religion.

Physical Requirements and Work Environment

The physical requirements and work environment described here are representative of those that must be met by an individual to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

This position requires the following:

- Working in variable weather conditions, at remote locations, on difficult and hazardous terrain, and under physically demanding circumstances
- Considerable physical exertion and/or muscular strain
- Lift and carry 40-lb back-pack sprayers
- Working with pesticides and other hazardous chemicals
- Manual dexterity to operate ATVs, chainsaws, brush cutters, backpack sprayers, and other tools and equipment
- Ability to write and speak clearly using the English language to convey information and be able to hear at normal speaking levels both in person and over the telephone
- Specific vision abilities required include close vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus
- Members will be provided training in the safe use of tools, equipment, and materials and will be given Personal Protective Equipment to minimize risks to extremes in health, safety hazards, and/or hazardous materials.
- This person must have the ability to travel as required to work with Host Site staff/board, volunteers, other members, and the public, participate in conferences and outdoor activities such as but not limited to site visits, volunteer activities, and project meetings

Though work is often performed in an office setting and outdoors, this person must have the ability to travel as required to work with Host Site staff/board, volunteers, partners, other members, and the public, participate in conferences and outdoor activities such as but not limited to site visits, volunteer or program activities, training events, and meetings.

Benefits: Member position begins October 10, 2023 and ends September 30, 2024. The member will be provided with a mandatory orientation October 10 – 13, 20, 2023 and relevant training monthly. This position is a **Full-time member** position and requires a minimum of 1700 hours of service over the service period. The member will receive a stipend of no more than \$20,000, and the stipend will be paid biweekly. Full-time members are also eligible for health insurance through this position and may qualify for childcare assistance. If the term of service is completed successfully, the member may be eligible for an educational award of \$6,895.00. The member will not be an employee of The Nature Conservancy and is not entitled to any of the benefits or compensation The Nature Conservancy provides to its employees.

The below signed recognize this as the Member Position Description and that the Member is to perform the duties detailed above during their Member Service Year. The below signed recognize that activities

outside of the scope of this description require prior written approval by all the below signed prior to execution of those activities.

NOWCorps Member Signature

Host Site Supervisor Signature

NOWCorps Staff Signature