



NOWCorps WATERSHED & STORMWATER STEWARD

Contact for interested Members: Claire Ilersich, NOWCorps Member Coordinator at claire@tinkerscreek.org or 330-963-6863 x5104 **AND** Sara Cooper, Aurora City Engineer, at coopers@auroraoh.com. Applications preferred by January 31, 2024, but position is open until filled.

About Us:

Northern Ohio Watershed Corps (NOWCorps) is a State and National AmeriCorps program, funded by AmeriCorps and ServeOhio, Ohio's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. *This is a paid service year position.* The NOWCorps program is sponsored by Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP), a non-profit, 501(c)(3) watershed organization, whose mission is to protect and restore water quality and habitats of the Tinker's Creek watershed through community partnerships. NOWCorps partners with watershed groups, soil and water conservation districts, city and county government offices, and other conservation nonprofits who serve as host sites for our members. Through the host site, members facilitate outreach, education, capacity building, environmental stewardship, and stormwater management. NOWCorps position descriptions vary depending on the host site and service year focus and prospective members may apply to multiple NOWCorps positions at the same time.

Together with our partners, **City of Aurora** 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.

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.

Host Site Information:

The City of Aurora, located in Northeast Ohio in the Cleveland-Akron Metropolitan Area, is a suburb with a population of approximately 17,000 people. The former home of Geauga Lake and Sea World Amusement Parks, the community is one of the fastest growing in the region while maintaining a rural charm. Aurora is well known for its excellent school system, its vast park network, its safety, and its affordability.

The city is split into two main watersheds roughly divided by SR 43. The eastern half of town is tributary to the Aurora Branch of the Chagrin River, and the western half of town is tributary to Pond Brook and Tinkers Creek. The city's administration is invested in effective stormwater management, both for new development as well as existing homes and buildings. As such, the city recently completed a stormwater master plan, outlining stormwater capital projects for the next 20 years and beyond.

Basic Position Information:

Location: City of Aurora, Department of Public Services, 158 W. Pioneer Trail, Aurora, OH 44202

Reports to: Sara Cooper, City Engineer

Member position begins February 19, 2024 and ends September 30, 2025. Mandatory orientation is scheduled February 1-20th, 2024, which will occur in person in Twinsburg, Ohio. This position is a $\frac{3}{4}$ **Time** position and requires a minimum of 1200 hours of service over the service period. The member will receive a stipend of no more than \$12,499.95, and the stipend will be paid twice monthly. If the term of service is completed successfully, the member may be eligible for an educational award of \$4,826.50.

Usual hours of service will be Monday-Friday during the hours of 7:30am-4:00pm. 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.

Benefits:

- Paid Orientation and training included
- Programmatic and site-specific training. Content may include but is not limited to: First Aid, CPR, native species identification, hand and power tool training, volunteer engagement, and more
- Federal Loan Deferment
- Full-time members eligible for health insurance
- Full-time members may qualify for childcare assistance
- May be eligible for education award of \$4,826.50
- Additional training reimbursement stipend of \$125/quarter (\$375 total)
- Eligible mileage reimbursement
- Ample opportunity for professional development and networking
- Free attendance to the Ohio Stormwater Conference

The member will not be an employee of City of Aurora and is not entitled to any of the benefits or compensation City of Aurora provides to its employees.

AmeriCorps Requirements:

- Must have a GED or high school diploma
- Must be 18 or older at start of service
- Must successfully pass a comprehensive background and criminal investigation check

Preferred Qualifications:

- Possess a valid driver's license, be insured, and have own transportation

- Have an interest or plan to pursue a career in the environmental field
- Be self-motivated and able to work independently and on a team
- Strong communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrate maturity and cultural competency
- Desire to serve the local community

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.
- All other duties as assigned within the limitations of this member description

Host Site Responsibilities

- The member will assist the city with the following:
 - Administration of a recently received FEMA grant for reduction of flooding of structures
 - Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination inspections
 - Erosion Control inspections
 - Preliminary planning for a stormwater education opportunities as part of a new Park project
 - Bioswale design and implementation
 - Watershed erosion evaluations
 - Public Involvement & Public Education

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

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:

- Occasional physical effort required in walking, standing, climbing and lifting while performing investigations and data gathering

- Work may be performed under varied conditions involving some disagreeable factors such as climatic conditions, odors, wastes, dirt, dust, noise and vehicular traffic while driving to, visiting, and working in streets and on projects
- Must be able to travel regularly during the day to perform on-site investigations

Additional information: City of Aurora is accessible to individuals with disabilities. City of Aurora, 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.

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