



Watershed Education & Outreach Specialist

Contact for interested Members: Claire Ilersich, NOWCorps Member Coordinator at claire@tinkerscreek.org or 330-963-6863 x5104. Applications preferred by August 1, 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, **Doan Brook Watershed Partnership (DBWP)** 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.

Host Site Information:

HOST SITE

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership (DBWP) celebrates the beauty and function of the Doan Brook watershed.

The culturally rich history that evolved along the Doan Brook demonstrates its important influence in shaping the character of our Northeast Ohio community. Because our watershed drains to the globally unique and valuable Lake Erie and St. Lawrence Seaway watersheds, the DBWP commits to protect and restore the Brook.

As the region works to preserve the bio-diverse, freshwater resources of Lake Erie as an underpinning of regional revitalization, the DBWP will focus on restoring ecosystem services within the Doan Brook watershed to further local sustainability goals.

The DBWP encourages watershed activities which will celebrate and quantify the Brook's critical role in culture, economics and individual well-being. It is hoped that DBWP activities will imbue people with a sense of place, connect them to our local hydrology, and inspire them towards stewardship of abundant, clean water.

DBWP works to facilitate and support conservation and restoration projects within the watershed — with an eye towards environmental justice — and document those efforts through a watershed information network. Another key part of our mission is to dynamically increase public engagement and awareness of the watershed, and serve as a collective voice for the Doan Brook and its constituencies.

Basic Position Information:

Location: DBWP, 12200 Fairhill Rd, Cleveland, Ohio 44120

Reports to: ***Executive Director, Dr. Mo Drinkard***

Member position begins October 8, 2024 and ends September 30, 2025. Mandatory orientation is scheduled October 8-11, 18, 2024, which will occur in person in Twinsburg, Ohio. This position is a **Half-time member** position and requires a minimum of 900 hours of service over the service period. The member will receive a stipend of no more than \$11,000, and the stipend will be paid bimonthly.

Usual hours of service will be 1 day during the hours of 10-3 with some evening and weekend events during the months of October to March. Usual hours of service will be 5 days during the hours of 10-3 with some evening and weekend events during the months of March to September. 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
- May be eligible for education award of \$3,697.50
- Additional training reimbursement stipend of \$125/quarter (\$500 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 Doan Brook Watershed Partnership and is not entitled to any of the benefits or compensation Doan Brook Watershed Partnership provides to its employees.

AmeriCorps Requirements:

- Must have a GED or high school diploma
- Must be 18 or older by October 8, 2024
- Must successfully pass a comprehensive National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC)
- Must be a US citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident.

Preferred Qualifications:

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

- Have an interest or plan to pursue a career in Watershed Science, Environmental Education or Science, Ecology, Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Equity
- 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
- *Knowledge of environmental, stream or watershed science*
- *Desire to support, understand, and take action for environmental justice and equity issues*
- *Experience in presenting scientific information to diverse audiences*
- *Experiences planning and executing public events*
- *Experience working with diverse community partners*
- *Experience developing and implementing marketing and social media strategies*

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

Duties and Responsibilities of Education & Outreach Specialist: Engagement and Stewardship

General Responsibilities:

- Develop partnerships and programs to build watershed awareness and stewardship.
- Plan and conduct stewardship events such as stream cleanups, tree plantings, and invasive vegetation removal including securing funding, recruiting volunteers, event planning and coordination.
- Coordinate and deliver programs for community officials, stormwater professionals, landscapers, natural resource managers, volunteers, schools, and the public.
- Expand volunteer engagement in collaboration with communities, park districts and other partners.
- Respond to inquiries from potential volunteers.
- Maintain system of contacts with potential volunteers.

- Evaluate effectiveness of recruitment process, volunteer orientation, training, materials and support and make recommendations for improvement.

Key Projects:

- Assist staff in implementing a variety of hikes, bicycle tours, fishing activities, boating activities.
- Manage outreach program registration prior to and during events
- Assist with coordination, preparation, and planning of the installation of green infrastructure including rain gardens, bioswales, tree plantings and other activities
- Track metrics and present results
- Develop storm water and sustainability educational materials for landowners.
- Assist with outreach events in the Doan Brook watershed and across Northeast Ohio Including but not limited to: Arbor Day Events, Earth Day Events, County Fairs, NEORSO Open House, and other member requests.
- Assist staff with stream cleanup events along the Doan Brook and Lake Erie.
- Develop improved volunteer management system

Duties and Responsibilities of Education & Outreach Specialist: Outreach and Media

General Responsibilities:

- Develop, deploy, maintain, and evaluate social media and marketing materials.
- Collect stories and digital media from members, partners, funders, volunteers, and staff.
- Assist with branding and messaging.
- Share marketing and messaging resources with partner cities

Key Projects:

- Assist with production and dissemination of monthly updates (or newsletters) featuring technical services, educational programs, stewardship events, and funding opportunities.
- Develop weekly themed social media updates to educate public.
- Catalog and expand Doan Brook Watershed signage throughout watershed.
- Attend meetings with community agencies to develop partnerships and activities, and to increase awareness around programs, volunteer opportunities, and educational opportunities.
- Provide technical resources and recommendations on watershed stewardship to communities, professionals, businesses, landowners, and residents.

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:

- manual dexterity sufficient to operate telephones, computers, and other office equipment
- capacity to position self to bend, kneel, and lightly lift
- Fluency in communicating in the English language, can convey information and listen
- capacity to utilize close vision, depth perception, and adjust focus
- Travel to field and program sites
- Hike up to several miles with a backpack, walk in woods, streams, ravines and other field conditions
- Could include some manual labor like litter clean up, invasive species removal, tree planting, rain barrel assembly, and other gardening tasks

Additional information: Doan Brook Watershed Partnership is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, 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