



NOWCorps NEOH Preserve Maintenance and Outreach 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, 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, **The Nature Conservancy** 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:

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 work with the Dr. James K. Bissell Nature Center, members will provide educational opportunities and programming for school children and visitors. Second, through work with the Central Lake Erie Basin staff, members will maintain visitor facilities at our public preserves. Third, through the NEOH Restoration Team, members will conduct restoration and stewardship across Northeast Ohio. Team members will have opportunities to work with multiple partners on a variety of natural areas throughout NEOH.

Housing is available on site – 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom rustic cabins available. 1 bedroom in a cabin rents for \$150/month (lease required). All bedrooms may be rented at the same time; there will never be more than three people housed in a cabin at the same time.

Basic Position Information:

Location: ***The Nature Conservancy, Grand River Conservation Campus, 3973 Callender Road, Rock Creek, Ohio 44084***

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

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 **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 \$22,000, and the stipend will be paid bimonthly.

Usual hours of service will be Monday - Friday during the hours of 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. 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 \$7,395.00
- 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 Holden Forests & Gardens and is not entitled to any of the benefits or compensation Holden Forests & Gardens 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 **education, biology, natural resources, stewardship, or similar**
- 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

- 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)
- Communicate to staff, volunteers, and the public about their work
- Assist with maintenance of public preserves (mowing, trail & equipment maintenance, etc.)
- 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

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:

- 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 ATV's, chainsaws, brush cutters, back-pack sprayers, and other tools and equipment
- manual dexterity sufficient to operate telephones, computers, and other office equipment
- Fluency in communicating in the English language, can convey information and listen
- Capacity to utilize close vision, depth perception, and 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

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.

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