

TRAIL STEWARD**Organization Overview**

Medina County Park District is a local and regional leader in conservation, education, and the protection of natural resources. Employees take pride in the parks, trails, programs, and community; ensure quality outdoor experiences; protect public investments; plant the forests and prairies of tomorrow; and develop the next generation of stewards. Employment with the park district is more than a job – it's an opportunity to make lives better in a fun, fulfilling team environment.

Responsibility

Under the direction of the planning and operations manager, and working collaboratively with the maintenance superintendent and the natural resource manager, the trail steward supports the park district's recreation efforts by actively managing, improving, developing, and building trails throughout the park district and performing routine and emergency maintenance activities to ensure safe, enjoyable visitor experiences.

Examples of Duties

- Researches, plans, coordinates, manages, and implements trail construction, rehabilitation, and all trail-related maintenance projects as identified or assigned
- Constructs natural-surface pedestrian trails – including footbridges and small boardwalks – using sustainable building techniques
- Designs and proposes re-routes of existing trails when necessary; may assist with mapping
- Helps supervise and coordinate trail construction projects that require contractors
- Inspects and repairs trails and trail signage
- Assists with the development of trail-related budgets
- Maintains trail standards; guides the continued implementation of a district-wide trails plan and makes adjustments and recommendations as needed
- Utilizes best practices for trail construction, restoration, and maintenance
- Evaluates trail sustainability in consideration of the surrounding landscape
- Responsible for ensuring trails remain well marked, and maps and signage are current and in good condition
- With the volunteer coordinator, recruits trail volunteers and service groups and develops volunteer opportunities to engage supporters and community members
- Assists with the supervision of park laborer(s), seasonal employees, and volunteers
- Maintains equipment and tools
- May assist other maintenance staff on non-trail projects as needed
- Other duties as assigned

Necessary Knowledge, Skills, Abilities

- Proven teamwork, communication, and partnership skills, and the ability to work directly with all levels of the organization to achieve common goals
- Demonstrated emotional intelligence including self-awareness, empathy,

reliability, and consistency; a proven track record of establishing and maintaining critical relationships internally and externally; demonstrated trust, integrity, and credibility

- A working knowledge of sustainable trail design and construction techniques, forestry management techniques, native and invasive species identification, and the ability to work with the public in a variety of settings
- Safe operation of district-owned vehicles; equipment such as mowers, tractors, and chainsaws along with the use of hand and power tools
- Cleaning and maintaining of said vehicles and equipment
- Proficiency in off-trail navigation including use of GPS
- Familiarity with GIS
- Basic computer operation skills
- Ability to read maps

Required Physical Abilities Include the Following, But Are Not Limited To

- Must work in the outdoors under a wide range of conditions throughout the year, including heat and insects in summer and extreme cold in winter
- Must occasionally lift items in excess of 50 pounds
- Must occasionally work around heavy equipment during construction projects

Desired Training and Experience Requirements

- Related coursework (associate's degree preferred) and a successful background (minimum three years) in natural resources, trail building, construction, recreation management, forestry, or similar field to indicate possession of the knowledge, skills and abilities listed above
- Demonstrated experience working with the equipment necessary to perform the job successfully
- Demonstrated experience selecting, training, and supervising staff and volunteers
- Possession of any certification or license appropriate to one's area of specialization
- Possession of a valid Ohio motor vehicle operator's license with a good driving record
- Satisfactory fingerprint and criminal background check and drug screening

Additional Information

A person well suited for this position will have a true love and appreciation of the outdoors.