Seeking Student Project Coordinator
Paid Capstone/Thesis Opportunity
Nest Watch St. Tammany

Project Summary
St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District seeks a highly motivated student with interests in community or environmental health to coordinate a unique community engagement program. Nest Watch St. Tammany is intended to gather important information on the nesting birds in our community that may aid in the prevention of WNV. This project will engage “citizen scientists” to identify and report active bird nests in their community to inform local West Nile virus host ecology. We intend for this project to engage the local community through four primary groups: 1) schools, 2) cub/boy/girl scout organizations, 3) neighborhood organizations and block captains, 4) local birding clubs.

Job Description
In conjunction with our staff public information specialist and research entomologist, the project coordinator will be responsible for the design, planning, promotion, execution, and evaluation of this pilot program.

Preferred (but not required) qualifications and skills
- Ability to represent our organization across a variety of audiences including schools, scout troops, neighborhood organizations, and scientific meetings.
- Experience designing community engagement events and activities.
- This program will involve the development of a project website and online data entry form. Experience in designing websites and/or database development is preferred.
- Experience in program evaluation and statistical analysis.
- Experience with or willingness to learn to Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS).
- Experience or willingness to learn to handle wild birds.

Position requirements
The applicant must have reliable transportation and be able to travel to St. Tammany Parish on a regular basis. The applicant must be prepared for field and office working conditions.

Time frame and commitment
This is a contract position that is expected to run from November 2013-November 2014. We anticipate the completion of this project will require ~400 hours (or ~8 hrs/week). Due to the nature of the work, flexibility with time allotment is required -- some weeks may require more or less time.

Compensation
The student will be compensated as a contract employee in twelve monthly installments of $416.67 for a total of $5000. Transportation costs associated with the project will be compensated at the current federal vehicle reimbursement rate (2013: $0.565/mile).

How to Apply?
Please send a resume or CV and a cover letter by October 20, 2013 to Dr. Kevin Caillouet (Caillouet@stpmad.org). St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate based on age, gender, sex, race, color, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, or mental or physical disability.
We seek a highly motivated student with interests in community or environmental health to coordinate a unique community engagement program. Nest Watch St. Tammany is intended to gather important information on the nesting birds in our community that may aid in the prevention of West Nile virus (WNV). This project will engage “citizen scientists” to identify and report active bird nests in their community to inform local WNV host ecology.

Compensation
The student will be compensated as a contract employee and will be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Questions?
Contact Kevin Caillouet, Ph.D. (Tulane School of Public Health alumnus ‘07) at Caillouet@stpmad.org for more information. Applications due by October 25th, 2013.

St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District
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