

Visiting Water Resources Specialist

Illinois State Water Survey
Prairie Research Institute
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS), a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been a leader in the study of water resources for more than a century. Our research and service programs provide citizens, industries, and government agencies at all levels with timely, science-based information and analyses necessary to manage our water resources wisely for economic development and a sustainable environment.

ISWS is seeking a Visiting Water Resources Specialist to develop specific urban and watershed management measures for full approval and implementation of the Illinois' Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program as part of the Coastal Zone Management Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990. Responsibilities involve providing support and technical assistance to the Coastal Management Program on coastal water quality, specifically nonpoint source pollution issues, watershed management, and wetland and coastal protection and management. This position will be located in the Chicago-land area.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

Obtain and analyze technical information about existing laws, policies, programs and initiatives; assess how the existing policies and management activities meet the requirements; work with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and other partner agencies in developing policy and program recommendations; develop documents for submission to US Environmental Protection Agency and NOAA; and initiate development of a fifteen-year strategy and five-year Coastal Nonpoint implementation plan.

Secondarily, will also provide scientific and technical support for program objectives related to watershed planning; urban storm water issues; multi-state Great Lakes water quality protection; urban rivers and streams protection; promoting green infrastructure; coastal wetland hydrology challenges; and other Coastal Management Program initiatives as applicable to skills and experience. This work will include meetings and collaboration with a wide variety of partners and stakeholder; public presentations at meetings and workshops; development of Lake Michigan water resource educational materials; and coordination with scientists and resource managers to address water resource challenges.

Position Requirements and Qualifications:

Education Required: Bachelor's degree in environmental sciences or related field. Preferred: Master's degree in environmental sciences or related field.

Experience Required: A minimum of 2 years of experience with federal, state or local policies and regulations related to water quality protection. Direct experience with watershed plans or watershed protection efforts. Must have experience using ArcGIS for water-related issues; planning and giving public presentations.

Preferred: Working directly with Section 6217 and Section 319 programs; urban watersheds and an understanding of green infrastructure techniques and uses.

Training Required: Driver's license

Knowledge Required: A familiarity with the Great Lakes and its water resources issues and challenges; and a broad knowledge of the technical aspects and policy components needed for management of nonpoint source pollution through a watershed approach. Understanding of program development, implantation, monitoring and evaluation is preferred. Must be proficient with Microsoft Office Suite and have a working knowledge of ArcGIS. Must have excellent writing and communication skills for giving presentations, writing papers and proposals, and translating highly technical information into products that are accessible to the non-technical audience.

This is a visiting full-time position paid on a 12-month basis. Position may become a regular position at a later date depending on funding and programmatic need.

Proposed start date: as soon as possible after the closing date, or until a suitable candidate is identified. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Appointment status: full-time, grant/contract funded, benefits eligible, visiting academic professional position.

Application procedures: Please complete your candidate profile at <http://jobs.illinois.edu> and upload: 1) a cover letter; 2) CV/resume; and 3) the contact information for three professional references by August 9, 2017. Interviews may be conducted before the closing date; however, no hiring decision will be made until after that date. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer.

For further information regarding application procedures, you may contact Hannah Dorsey at (217) 333-4978 or hdorsey@illinois.edu.

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EEO>. To learn more about the University's commitment to diversity, please visit <http://www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu>