

AmeriCorps Position with South Sound GREEN Thurston Conservation District

South Sound GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network) (SSG) is seeking an AmeriCorps member committed to

- 1) connecting students with their watershed and Puget Sound, and
- 2) developing stewardship skills in the lives of students

We offer a position with a balance of field investigations/action projects with students, program/event coordination, and teaching classes of students and adult volunteers. The AmeriCorps member will work as a team with the Program Coordinator in all aspects of the watershed education program for grades 5-12+. There will be opportunity for independent project work. The work takes place in Thurston County, Washington at sites on local streams, rivers, Puget Sound shorelines, in classrooms, and at the Thurston Conservation District office in Tumwater Washington (located near South Puget Sound Community College). The position involves substantial work with community partners.

South Sound GREEN provides opportunities for students to explore, investigate and take action to improve their local stream, river, lake or wetland and the shorelines of South Puget Sound.

Duties and Responsibilities will include the following:

The South Sound GREEN (SSG) AmeriCorps member will assist with all aspects of the watershed education program, including:

- Water quality Monitoring: Schedule, prepare and present introduction to watersheds and training of classes for water quality monitoring; assist with monitoring events, and compile student data.
- Nearshore/marine Field trips: Teach small groups at marine sites and provide classroom presentations and activities.
- Program Outreach: Manage and regularly update webpage, Facebook, press releases, email lists, monthly newsletter.
- Volunteer coordination: Recruit, train, and supervise a corps of volunteers to provide support for SSG activities (classroom parents, college students, retired and other community members)
- Riparian or Shoreline Restoration projects: Assist with site prep, work with groups of students at restoration sites; check for plant survival.
- Student GREEN Congress: Assist with preparation and coordination of a March watershed summit, the 20th Annual Student GREEN Congress, held at The Evergreen State College.
- Teacher training: Assist with teacher networking meetings (2) and a June Summer Teacher Institute
- Other:

- Assist with other District and SSG program events, such as the annual Native Plant Sale.
- SSG would like to initiate a virtual watershed exchange program with places where we have opportunity or contact, for example, the Lake Baikal region of Siberia or River Exchange out of New Mexico.

Preferred Background/Interests/Skills/Education and Experience:

- Interest in environmental education, citizen science, and field investigations, specifically around water quality, riparian habitat, and nearshore-marine education.
- Experience working with students, teachers, and community volunteers.
- Ability to manage, organize, and track multiple tasks/projects simultaneously.
- Experience and interest in updating website and social networking electronic media for program outreach.
- Excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and maintain communication with supervisor on project status.
- Some college preferred, especially in environmental science, education, and/or child development.
- Strong computer/technology skills (Microsoft Office); GIS mapping or media skills are a plus.

Requirements: Successful applicants will serve as a member of AmeriCorps, administered by the Washington Service Corps, and must meet the following requirements:

- Must be between the ages of 21 and 25
- Must be willing to serve a 40-hour week
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or National, or Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- Must not have previously served two terms in an AmeriCorps State or National Program
- Must be willing to submit to a background check to work with children and volunteers
- Must have a valid Driver's License, safe driving record, and be comfortable driving a truck with a standard transmission
- Must be able to lift 30 pounds and to engage in shoveling and nature walks

Terms of Service: The position is 10.5 months, from September 1, 2011 through July 15, 2012