



Position Description: Land Steward

Ozaukee Washington Land Trust Mission and Vision

To protect and steward land and water for the benefit of all.

Inspiring people to engage with nature by ensuring that habitats, working lands, and water resources are conserved, connected, and resilient.

About OWLT

Our efforts improve the water quality of our lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands, protect and enhance wildlife habitat, and preserve the scenic and open spaces that define our rural landscape. By creating strong conservation relationships, we promote public awareness of the benefits of land preservation, provide opportunities for nature-based recreation, and improve the quality of life in our communities.

Since 1992 Ozaukee Washington Land Trust (OWLT) has been the region's driving force in land preservation and protection. OWLT currently owns, manages, and is actively restoring over 2,000 acres of natural areas and wildlife habitat across 35 preserves. In addition, OWLT protects over 5,000 acres through conservation easements, partnerships, and planned gifts.

Responsibilities

The Land Steward position is based in the field. Utilizing sustainable management techniques and strong initiative, Land Stewards can look forward to working as a team while getting their hands dirty restoring beautiful forests, prairies, wetlands, and other natural areas within Ozaukee and Washington Counties. Land Stewards will work closely with OWLT staff, partners, and volunteer groups and individuals to deliver stewardship to support mission and vision.

Land Stewards are responsible for executing daily in the field functions and occasionally lead volunteer workdays. Land Stewards can anticipate one weekend day per month.

These responsibilities include:

Land Stewardship:

Complete objectives related to restoration projects and preserve management plans. This includes invasive species removal and treatment, tree planting and care, prairie establishment, prescribed fire, restoration monitoring, and more. Stewards will contribute to OWLT's database by recording data on daily work, invasive species, and issues/needs/tasks out on the preserves.

Maintain OWLT preserves for public use. This includes widening and removing debris from trails, ensuring entrances to preserves are clean and welcoming to the public, installing and maintaining signs, among other tasks related to nature preserve infrastructure. Land Stewards represent OWLT's public

image and are expected to interact with and answer questions from users and volunteers, making the preserves a welcoming experience for all.

Daily cleaning, maintenance, and tracking use of equipment.

Volunteer Program

Work side by side to lead, engage with, and motivate volunteers. This includes individual stewardship volunteers, local church/corporate/school groups, partner organizations, and boy/girl scout troops. Land Stewards will work with the Stewardship Staff to execute workdays.

Provide input and take photos that can be used for OWLT calendar, social media, and other communication platforms.

Minimum qualifications required

- High school Diploma or equivalent
- Valid driver's license

Desired Knowledge, skills, and abilities

- Pursuit or possession of Natural Resources degree/related field of study
- Basic use and repair of hand tools and power equipment including hand shears, loppers, chainsaws, lawn mowers, tractors, brush cutters etc.
- Knowledge and experience in natural area management techniques
- Knowledge of local wildlife and vegetation
- Self-motivated, flexible, and ability to adapt to change and meet project deadlines
- Experience leading a team and supervising volunteer activities
- Experience/certification in herbicide use and chainsaw safety
- Experience in the use of GPS and GIS technology
- Ability to navigate and manage online and web applications for data collection
- Ability to work independently, in a team setting, with partners, and with the public
- Ability to communicate effectively with landowners, the public, media, professional colleagues and government entities

Physical Requirements

- Ability to work in all weather conditions
- Ability to traverse various types of terrain
- Ability to lift 50 lbs.

Salary and Benefits:

Land Steward positions are seasonal, full-time positions (averaging 35+ hours/week) where compensation range is \$14-\$16/hour based on experience. This position is weather dependent but regularly Monday-Friday with one weekend day per month required.

Classification: Seasonal full-time position (On average 35+ hours/week),

Supervisor: OWLT Stewardship Coordinator

Supervises: Supervision of volunteers (all ages) is required

Duration: April-December

Compensation: \$14.00 - \$16.00/hour

Position: Land Steward, 95% field, 5% office

Work Week: Weather dependent Monday – Friday, one weekend day per month required

To Apply: Please send a cover letter, resume, and the names of three references with current contact information to: jschlicht@owl.org

Positions open until filled, Land Trust staff will evaluate applications as they are received.