



“Protecting the lakes, ponds, and streams of the Cobbossee Watershed through community engagement, conservation, and education.”

Plant Control Coordinator – Job Description

The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed (Watershed Friends) was founded in 2001 as a citizen grass-roots effort to assist in the protection of local water quality. Within the 217-square-mile area of the Cobbossee Watershed, there are 28 major lakes and ponds; six of which are currently known to be infested with Aquatic Invasive Plants. Watershed Friends’ conservation programs aim to prevent the spread of, survey for, and manage known Aquatic Invasive Plants within the Cobbossee Watershed.

Watershed Friends’ ***Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)*** program utilizes several manual control methods to manage the four known Aquatic Invasive Species in our watershed, primarily on Cobbossee Lake. Control methods include Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) via pontoon boat, manual hand removal using surface-supplied air and SCUBA, and the installation of benthic barriers. The Plant Control Coordinator works with the Control crew and the Director of Conservation to use best management practices on infested waterbodies. The Control crew will work on the Plant Survey crew when not in active management. Work can be expected from June through October. On-the-job training is provided.

Watershed Friends is seeking a responsible and driven person to fill the position of **Plant Control Coordinator** at **\$20/hour** for 35 hrs/week.

Qualifications:

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, particularly with the public.
- Attention to detail in filling out data forms, creating reports and maps, and following plant survey/control plans.
- Ability to lead a small group positively, be a good role model, and encourage a good work ethic.
- Works with the Director of Conservation to plan and implement manual control efforts.
- Works as a plant survey team member when not in active control efforts.
- Experience driving and trailering boats.
- SCUBA certification or ability to become certified before May.
- Willing to work in difficult situations; low underwater visibility, cold temperatures, and depths that may be dark or hard to maneuver.
- Available May to October, work may be available into November.

Responsibilities include:

- Communicating daily with the Director and Programs Manager.
- Submitting plant control data and helping to promote the work done by the team.
- Overseeing care, maintenance, and sanitization of work equipment, such as boats, kayaks, SCUBA equipment, life vests, Aquascopes, etc.
- Fulfilling other duties as assigned to further the mission of Watershed Friends.

Additional skills:

- Familiarity with motorized boats and safe boating practices on lakes.
- Ability to tow and launch boats safely while following Clean, Drain, Dry protocols.
- Familiarity with botany and/or plant identification, aquatic species a bonus.
- High energy level with a positive attitude.
- A willingness to learn quickly, work collaboratively, and lead by example.
- Knowledge of environmental issues, with a focus on watershed ecology and invasive species.
- Valid driver's license, clean driving record, and ability to pass a background check.
- Mechanical aptitude, especially with small engines, boat equipment, and related items.



To Apply: Please send a resume, cover letter, and three references to: Jennifer Peasnall, Director of Conservation, jennifer@watershedfriends.com or Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, PO Box 206, East Winthrop Maine, 04343