



Michigan Nature Association

Protecting Michigan's natural heritage since 1952

2310 Science Parkway, Suite 100
Okemos, MI 48864
866.223.2231

Conservation Coordinator - Eastern Lower Peninsula

The Michigan Nature Association (MNA) is seeking an exceptional candidate for its Conservation Coordinator in the Eastern Lower Peninsula region. The Conservation Coordinator will be the local face of MNA in their assigned region. Reporting to the Conservation Manager, they will help advance MNA's projects and priorities in the region, with a primary emphasis on the stewardship and management of the region's network of MNA sanctuaries.

The successful candidate will be a self-motivated self-starter with the ability to prioritize multiple tasks and deliver quality results under deadlines. In this multifaceted role they will guide stewardship, management, and planning for their assigned sanctuaries; recruit and oversee volunteers; represent MNA at regional meetings and events; support MNA's environmental education programs; participate in key conservation partnerships; and contribute to MNA's public engagement efforts (its magazine, social media, events, etc.).

MNA is a statewide nonprofit conservation organization established in 1952 and based in Okemos, Michigan. We are a nationally accredited land trust with a mission to protect rare, threatened, and endangered species and imperiled natural communities. MNA protects a vast network of over 180 sanctuaries, totaling nearly 17,000 acres, in 60 of Michigan's 83 counties. Besides land protection, other program areas include habitat restoration and management, environmental education, and community engagement. For more information on MNA, please see our website at michigannature.org.

Key Responsibilities:

Stewardship and Sanctuary Management

- In coordination with the Conservation Manager, execute MNA's stewardship operations for the Eastern Lower Peninsula, which include sanctuary monitoring, land management planning, and ecological management projects such as invasive species removal
- Address issues pertaining to risk management, neighbor relations, and general property management
- Assist with developing ecological inventories for sanctuaries and rare species in a manner which reflects the priorities of the State Wildlife Action Plan

Public Engagement

- Oversee regional volunteer engagement and recruitment. Set up sanctuary-specific programming including volunteer workdays and training opportunities
- Develop and maintain environmentally appropriate trails and infrastructure for public visitation at appropriate sanctuaries
- Periodically contribute regionally specific content for Michigan Nature magazine and MNA's social media, including story ideas, written materials, photos and videos.

Environmental Education

- Develop and maintain School-to-Sanctuary partnerships in select communities
- Coordinate regional interns
- Engage in partnerships with universities and researchers
- Assist with citizen science initiatives

Conservation Partnerships

- Participate with rare species, imperiled community, and other conservation-based partnerships as assigned
- Assist and support the Michigan Vernal Pool Partnership as needed and map vernal pools on sanctuaries where appropriate
- Coordinate conservation activities with community and statewide partners to advance MNA programs

Perform other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology, environmental interpretation, natural resources management or related field and one to two years of related ecological land management or environmental education experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience
- Knowledge of and commitment to MNA's mission and stewardship program
- Experience working with or knowledge of natural ecosystems. Ability to recognize plant and animal species as required to complete stewardship activities
- Ability to talk to community groups and the public about ecological issues and develop a community-based environmental outreach program
- Ability to create and implement sanctuary management plans using current ecological management principles and practices
- Experience or ability to safely use and maintain stewardship tools and equipment, including power tools such as brush cutters and chainsaws
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Experience recruiting, training and organizing volunteers and volunteer events
- Proficiency with common software programs (Word, Excel, Access, email, web browsers)
- Ability to learn various GIS/GPS software programs
- Ability to obtain job-related licenses or certifications such as first aid, CPR, pesticide applicators license, S130/190 Wildland Fire Training, driver's license

Desired Qualifications:

- Experience with ESRI's GIS software, apps, and online platforms, including AGO, ArcPro, ArcMap, and FieldMaps
- Pesticide applicators license
- S130/190 Wildland Fire Training
- Survey experience

Compensation:

This is a full-time, exempt position in a flexible, hybrid work environment (home/field/office) that involves regular day trips within the assigned region and may require some evening and weekend work, as well as occasional overnight travel. Compensation is commensurate with experience but is expected to be between \$35,000 and \$40,000. It includes health, dental, and vision insurance benefits (with certain co-pays), life insurance, disability insurance, paid personal time off, and 403(b) savings plan with vested match by MNA.

To Apply:

Please send a resume, cover letter, and contact information for three professional references to Rachel Maranto, Conservation Manager, via email at rmaranto@michigannature.org. Applications will be accepted through August 23, 2022, or until the position has been filled.

MNA embraces a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive organizational culture as central to our mission of protecting biological diversity; we are rooted in the belief that nature needs everyone and everyone needs nature. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and it is the policy of MNA that no employee or applicant for employment will be discriminated against based upon age, race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, veteran status, or other protected class or characteristic established under applicable federal, state or local statute or ordinance. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.