



## Boone County Conservation District

6028 Camp Ernst Road, Burlington, KY 41005  
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[www.bccdky.org](http://www.bccdky.org)

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**Position:** Full-time Forest Health Specialist for the Boone County Conservation District (BCCDKY)

**Location:** 6028 Camp Ernst Road  
Burlington, KY 41005

**Job Type:** Full-time with benefits (medical, dental, retirement); compensation \$21.63 hourly; 40 hours per week with occasional evening and weekend hours.

**Overview of the Organization:** The Boone County Conservation District (“BCCDKY”) is one of 121 conservation districts in Kentucky. Kentucky Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of state government but are not state agencies. Conservation Districts are local units of government that work within county boundaries and are charged with carrying out programs for the conservation, use and development of soil, water, and other natural resources. Conservation Districts are the primary entities that assist private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement, and enhancement of Kentucky’s natural resources. They are catalysts for coordinating and implementing conservation programs, channeling expertise from all levels of government and the community into action at the local level. Programs are non-regulatory, science based technical assistance, incentive based financial programs, and informational and education programs.

**Job Description:** The Forest Health Specialist works with the district staff and board of supervisors to determine the organization’s values and mission and to plan for short and long-term goals. This person will report directly to the Director of Conservation Programs and serve as a team member to carry out the organization’s annual and long-range plans of work. By working in various forested and natural areas, a forest health specialist promotes forest health over the long term. This position will assist with the land management duties at the Earl and Hazel Jones Center for Conservation, a 92-acre property with forest, field, wetland, and riparian habitat. Duties might include surveying the ecosystem, implementing restorative and protective projects, and managing the growth of different types of trees and other vegetation. This work will help identify and lessen tree diseases, decrease the spread of invasive plant species, and improve habitat for wildlife including threatened and endangered species.

### **Responsibilities:**

#### **Technical**

- Develop a forest management strategy for western Boone County
  - a. Investigate and document threats to local forest and wildlife resources (i.e., invasive species, diseases etc.)
  - b. Maintain an ongoing, sustainable forest and wildlife research program
- Manage data to support natural resource reports, plans, projects, or permitted uses.
- Increase technical assistance for public and private lands
- Assist with equipment inventory and maintenance.
- Safely use power tools or equipment for forestry or natural resource-related projects.
- Support BCCDKY staff and partners with technical conservation projects, including native species plantings, invasive species control, stream health monitoring, and other field work
- Promote State Cost Share, EQIP, and other financial assistance programs to landowners

### ***Community Outreach and Education***

- Increase outreach efforts to forest landowners
- Assist with youth and K-12 programming when necessary, including school visits and summer camps
- Attend or host meetings with stakeholders, including landowners and community organizations
- Develop strong partnerships with local universities, agencies, and community groups
- Create educational content for print, online, and social media
- Assist with the development of forest management workshops and education programs
- Participate in community events such as fairs and festivals.

### ***Administration***

- Provide support for budgeting, reporting, and planning.
- Attend regular staff meetings and monthly board meetings.
- Provide monthly reports to the Board of Supervisors.
- Collaborate with staff and board to identify and address problems and opportunities for the district.
- Other duties as assigned.

### ***Skills and Qualifications:***

- Degree in biology, ecology, environmental studies, or related field preferred.
- Experience in forest and wildlife management.
- Knowledge of local and international conservation issues.
- Experience with GPS, GIS, and map making.
- Experience in natural resources, conservation, agriculture, and related fields is strongly preferred.
- Ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to be flexible with daily responsibilities, exhibit strong people skills, and act as a member of a team
- Valid driver's license.
- Must be legally authorized to work in the United States.
- Ability to lift 50 lbs., work in adverse weather and remain on feet for long periods without difficulty.
- CPR, Wilderness first aid, AED adult and pediatric certification, or lifeguard certification is a plus.
- Subject to background check upon hiring.

**To apply, please send cover letter, resume, and three references to [markjacobs@bccdky.org](mailto:markjacobs@bccdky.org) by September 30, 2024.**