

Job Announcement: Rainwater as AgWater Apprentice

About the Organization

At Watershed Management Group (WMG), we envision a world where the relationship between the Sonoran Desert and its people creates prosperity for all. This includes all people, plants, animals, land, and waters of the United States, Mexico, and Native American nations found in the Sonoran Desert. Our mission is to develop and implement community-based solutions to ensure the long-term prosperity of people and health of the environment. We provide people with the knowledge, skills, and resources for sustainable livelihoods.

At the core of our work is the value and practice of diversity, equity, and inclusion with the goal of advancing care for people and the environment. In recruiting for our team, we welcome the unique contributions that you can bring in terms of education, opinions, culture, ethnicity, race, sex, gender identity and expression, nation of origin, age, languages spoken, veteran's status, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation and beliefs.

Job Title: Rainwater as AgWater Apprentice Supervisor: Valerisa Gaddy, Community Conservation Director Position Start Date and End Date: August 2024 – December 2024. (Possible extension into Spring 2025). Hours: Part time, 10-20 hours per week; 2-3 days per week Monday – Friday with occasional evening and weekend hours Location: Tucson, AZ Pay: \$20/hour Benefits: sick leave FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Job Description

This role focuses on developing and implementing strategies that utilize harvested rainwater to enhance agricultural practices, support food sovereignty, and promote sustainable water management in local communities. Focus will be on small scale growers and community gardeners and the ideal candidate will provide thoughtful contributions to coordination, project design, technical assistant and other suits as needed. Additionally, the candidate will help inform improvements to existing and future infrastructure assistance. This role will be instrumental in fostering resilience and self-sufficiency in local food systems.

The ideal candidate will be passionate about WMG's mission; enjoy building relationships with WMG donors and volunteers; be interested in developing skills planning events and engage with small growers and gardeners; and participate in WMG's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals.

The Apprentice will be a member of the Community Conservation team, led by Community Conservation Director and supported by a variety of staff at WMG.

The Apprentice will participate in weekly onboarding and development activities with a cohort of other apprentices, interns, and docents. Training often occurs on Friday afternoons, 3-5pm.

Learn, Participate, and Master These Routine Duties & Responsibilities

- 1. Water harvesting systems
 - a. Care for rain tanks (active) and potable filtration system
 - b. Care for rain gardens (passive) water harvesting system. Including fixing any erosion issues, adjusting rock work, removing invasive plants, and pruning
 - c. Ensure greywater systems are properly functioning
- 2. Home gardens and small scale farms
 - a. Understanding of managing nutrients, weeding, watering, pruning, planting, and harvesting
 - b. Grow and harvest seasonal, desert adapted veggies, herbs, and fruits
- 3. Resource Development
 - a. Create educational materials, guides, and resources that promote rainwater harvesting for agricultural use that aligns with food sovereignty values.
- 4. Develop Impact Assessment
 - a. Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of rainwater harvesting systems on small farms and home gardens agricultural
 - b. Conduct interview with stakeholders: Community Food bank, Native Seed Search, Tucson Village Farm and many local community members
- 5. Partnerships:
 - a. Build and maintain partnerships with local organizations, agricultural groups, and community leaders to support program goals.
 - b. Attend existing coalitions and meetings relating to food production in Southern Arizona.
 - c. Help develop piloting projects with partners.

Job Requirements

- Interest and support of WMG's mission and vision
- Friendly people-person, good conversationalist, and good listener
- Strong communication skills, specifically writing for a lay audience, editing, and communication through print and online media
- Ability to work well in a team setting, and coordinate other team members to accomplish events and projects together

Preferred Experience

- Knowledgeable in environmental issues of the Southwest U.S. and Sonoran Desert
- Experience in agriculture
- Experience in rainwater harvesting

Application

Applicants must provide:

- a 1 page cover letter (statement of interest), including a brief statement of your philosophy and commitment to community-centered fundraising and DEI work
- a 1-2 page resume or list of previous work experience
- phone and email contact for 3 references (at least two professional)

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