



Stewardship Director Position Announcement

About the Open Land Trust

Beaufort County Open Land Trust was founded in 1971 and has protected over 23,000 acres of land in Beaufort County and the surrounding region. BCOLT, accredited by the Land Trust Alliance Accreditation Commission, holds approximately 86 conservation easements and owns 50 properties in fee simple. It has conservation focus areas in the County, the ACE Basin and the Southern Lowcountry, and works to advance conservation initiatives through easements and fee acquisitions. Currently, BCOLT administers the County's Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program which identifies properties and negotiates land preservation on behalf of the County and its residents. BCOLT protects various lands from small vistas and open spaces, to large working farms or timberlands, and has a strong history of community engagement for land acquisition efforts.

About the Stewardship Director Position

The Stewardship Director will oversee the Open Land Trust's land stewardship program, including the management of OLT's fee-owned conservation properties. The Stewardship Director will also assist with advancement of BCOLT's land conservation strategies. This position reports directly to the Executive Director.

Stewardship Responsibilities:

- Ensures OLT's conservation easements and fee-simple properties are monitored in compliance with OLT policy and the Land Trust Alliance's Accreditation Standards & Practices.
- Ensures that strong relationships with neighbors of conservation properties are established and nurtured.
- Works cooperatively with communities, state and local agencies and other conservation partner organizations to maximize land stewardship impacts.
- Reviews existing and future needs for publicly accessible conservation properties and develops long-term strategies for maintaining and operating sites.
- Oversees OLT's land stewardship volunteer projects, communicates with volunteer prospects, and tracks, supports and celebrates volunteer participation.
- Seeks out landowner resource programs and communicates those opportunities to landowners.

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- Maintains responsibility for fee land management tasks including invasive plant removal and boundary maintenance.

Land Protection Responsibilities:

- Works closely with Land Protection Director on the preparation of project documentation, primarily maps.
- Supports the Land Protection Director with the Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program
- Assists Land Protection Director with landowner, partner and stakeholder meetings to identify easement or fee acquisition priorities and opportunities for the OLT service area.

Other Responsibilities:

- Works with other land trust staff to promote BCOLT programs through related tasks including taking pictures for the land trust's website, identifying content for social media sites, and contributing articles to land trust newsletters.
- Assists with grant writing and seeks out new grant opportunities to fund BCOLT stewardship projects.

Experience Requirements

- BA/BS in a related field is preferred; related experience in a conservation-oriented field is a plus. An equivalent combination of education and experience in natural resources, environmental studies or land planning is desired.
- Experience/knowledge in national, state, and local conservation laws.
- Understanding of working lands, natural systems, and historical and cultural resources of the Lowcountry.
- Knowledge of coastal ecosystems and their management for conservation.
- Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability and personality to work collaboratively with a small staff team to implement programs for the organization.
- Ability to build rapport and trust-based relationships with landowners; the ability to understand the needs and perspectives of landowners and to work to find mutually satisfying solutions.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing with landowners, the public, professional colleagues and governmental agencies.
- Proven ability with ArcMap and MS Office applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook. Experience with GIS field technology a plus.
- Physical ability to sit at a desk with a computer or in meetings for long periods, to travel to remote and undeveloped property, to hike and wade through a variety of environmental conditions and be outdoors for considerable periods of time.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by an employee assigned to this position. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required. All staff members may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities from time to time, as needed.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to:

Kristin Williams
Executive Director
kristin@openlandtrust.com

Deadline: Friday May 17th, 2019