



Job Title: Conservation Planning Intern
Salary Range: \$15-hr; 450 hours maximum (full-time summer, dates flexible)
Location: Hybrid- Downtown Durham 1 day weekly
Reports to: Conservation Planner
Application Deadline: February 19, 2024

About TLC

TLC is an accredited and well-respected land trust, having protected over 24,000 acres in the rapidly growing Triangle region of North Carolina. Since 1983, TLC has conserved land to safeguard drinking water, support family farms and the local food economy, protect important natural habitat, and connect people with nature. TLC is currently headquartered in vibrant downtown Durham, although most staff are working remotely. This is an exciting time to work at TLC as we are seeing a dramatic increase in the use of our public nature preserves and growth in community support for our mission. TLC has doubled the pace of conservation in the Triangle and conserves at least 1,000 acres per year as outlined in our [Strategic Action Plan](#).

TLC seeks to attract candidates who support our [mission and values](#) as well as respect and promote excellence through diversity. To this end, TLC recruits, hires, trains, and promotes individuals without regard to color, race, religious belief, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, disability, veteran status, or age. To learn more about TLC, please visit our website www.triangleland.org.

We encourage applications from people who have a passion for the work outlined below, even if their professional experience does not align perfectly with the expectations listed. TLC has a generous support system that includes a mix of paid professional development opportunities as well as training and support from fellow staff members.

Position Description

The Conservation Planning Intern is a supporting position that plays a role in TLC's land protection program. The intern will serve, alongside the Conservation Planner, in organizing, creating, and utilizing planning data to develop strategies to achieve the goals of TLC's strategic action plan. This includes GIS modeling in ArcGIS Pro, communication via cartographic design, and technical report writing. The internship is ideal for candidates looking to practically apply GIS skills toward a conservation planning project, assist with community outreach, and gain experience working with local governments, resource

partners, and community members on conservation initiatives. There will also be opportunities for the intern to gain exposure to ongoing projects in other TLC departments throughout the summer, including stewardship and education & outreach.

Essential Duties Include:

Advanced GIS

- Provide support in the process of updating existing GIS models and developing new models.
- Work on planning projects such as farmland plans, watershed plans, and regional initiatives.
- Manage GIS databases in ArcGIS Pro and Landscape and use data to track progress towards achieving the goals in TLC's strategic action plan.

Communications and Planning

- Assist Conservation Planner in drafting and coordinating strategic conservation plans for TLC Initiatives.
- Support partnerships like the [Upper Neuse Watershed Protection](#) Program and Jordan Lake One Water Program
- Create maps and organize GIS-related material for land protection and communications team

Land Protection

- Assist land protection and stewardship departments with aspects of the land protection process, including fieldwork and the development of baseline documentation reports.

Essential Experience, Technical Skills and Competencies

- Bachelor's degree in geographic information systems, geography, planning, environmental management, environmental science, or a closely related field
- Experience using Esri ArcGIS Suite (ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online, model builder, spatial analyst, network analyst), and ability to learn new trends and technology in GIS applications
- Knowledge of advanced spatial analysis and modeling techniques (for example site suitability analysis, least cost path analysis, species distribution modeling, hydrology/watershed modeling, etc.).
- Strong cartographic skills and experience making visually appealing maps.
- Technical writing experience including the creation of analytical summary tables, and graphics.
- Interest in conducting community outreach and working with technical advisory groups and stakeholders.
- Excellent presentation skills, and ability to make technical information accessible to non-technical audiences.
- Background in natural resource conservation, climate science, and earth science.
- Exceptional critical thinking, analytical, problem-solving, and organizational skills; the ability to focus on solutions.
- Awareness of and willingness to actively participate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts with a commitment to seeing how our work can be more equitable and support those efforts.
- Ability to work independently with limited supervision as well as collaboratively in an environment that stresses teamwork.

- Flexible and able to manage multiple tasks, work with different personalities and manage tight timelines with accuracy.
- A service-oriented mindset with the desire to help others succeed.

Benefits

This is a temporary hourly position and does not qualify for paid annual leave or other employee benefits.

How to apply

Applications should be submitted via email as a single pdf to internships@triangleland.org with the subject line "Conservation Planning Intern Application" and should include: 1) maximum two-page resume 2) answers to the supplemental questions below, 3) a map sample, and 4) two professional references. References will not be contacted without notifying you first.

All applicants will receive a confirmation email. If you are selected to move forward, HR will contact you. We do not accept online application submission from Indeed, LinkedIn, or Simply Hired. Please no contact from recruiters. And please no emails, phone calls, or drop-ins for application status updates. No paper submissions.

Triangle Land Conservancy
PO Box 1848
Durham, NC 27702

Supplemental Questions:

In 500 total words or less, please answer the following prompts:

Why does this position interest you, and what do you hope to gain from the internship?

Please describe your experience using geospatial tools/software, including any long-term projects you've completed.