



Pollinator Study Field Assistant (Seasonal)

BiodiversityWorks (BWorks) is a conservation organization on the island of Martha's Vineyard working to promote biodiversity conservation through wildlife research, monitoring, and community science. We also prioritize mentoring young adults on an environmental/conservation career track. We are seeking a summer Field Assistant to work with our Martha's Vineyard Atlas of Life (MVAL) Program Director and partner organization staff on a project studying pollinators on Vineyard farms.

All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status.

Location: Martha's Vineyard, MA

Time Period: May–August, dates negotiable

Hours: Seasonal, two days per week. Hours are flexible but must align with sunny conditions.

Application deadline: 4/24/2022

Description: The Pollinator Study Field Assistant will assist the MVAL Program Director in collecting data on flower visitation by insects at eight Vineyard farms that are participating in this project. Data to be collected include weather conditions, photographs to be uploaded into the community science platform iNaturalist, and photographs documenting conditions at project sites. Some collecting and processing of insect specimens may be required. While gardening work will not normally be part of the Field Assistant's duties, she/he/they should be able to notice horticultural problems and explain them to partner staff; the Field Assistant may occasionally need to help with weeding, planting, or watering plants in small project plots.

Responsibilities

- Find insects visiting flowers at participating farms. Take good photos and upload images into iNaturalist.
- On each site visit, photograph project plots to show conditions; archive photos in a consistent, orderly manner.
- Interact with farm staff to (for example) explain the goals and procedures for the project.
- Assess health of plants in project plots, informing partner organization staff of any problems.
- Assist the MVAL Program Director on site visits to collect or observe pollinators.
- Complete data sheets in the field, maintain records of observations made during site visits.
- Communicate with the MVAL Program Director regularly to discuss scheduling, priorities, and observations.

Qualifications:

High School diploma or equivalent required. Some college preferred.

Strong candidates for this position will exhibit most or all of the following skills, interests, and types of experience. Training will be provided as needed.

- Enthusiasm for the study of nature and the conservation of biodiversity.
- Experience using the iNaturalist community science platform, or interest in learning to use it.
- Interest in learning to identify flowers, insects, and other arthropods; experience at nature observation, such as birding, butterfly watching, etc.
- Attention to detail and ability to follow detailed procedures.
- Experience with digital photography (ideally macro photography of wildlife). Having access to your own camera (and experience using it) is a plus.

- Reliability and the ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- An ideal candidate would have college-level coursework in biology and/or previous experience working on field biology projects.
- Must possess a valid driver's license, good driving record, and regular access to a reliable vehicle.
- Must be vaccinated and have booster shot for the Covid-19 virus; or be willing to supply a doctor's letter for a medical waiver of the requirement.
- Must be able to work outdoors under hot, sunny conditions.

Compensation: \$16.50 hour, depending on qualifications. Cell phone stipend (\$25/mo) and mileage reimbursement. We cannot provide housing for this position, so an ideal candidate will have a housing option on Martha's Vineyard.

To Apply: Please email a single .PDF file containing a cover letter summarizing your relevant experience, career goals, and dates available; a resume; and contact information for 2 work references to: Matt Pelikan, mpelikan@biodiversityworksmv.org

All applications must be received by midnight on 4/24/22

BiodiversityWorks is an Equal Opportunity Employer