



## King County

Water and Land Resources Division  
Department of Natural Resources and Parks

### SEASONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST I – SHORT TERM TEMPORARY

If you are an organized person interested in getting experience as an environmental scientist and like working outside, this opportunity may be for you!

#### About the Position

The King County Department of Natural Resources, Water and Land Resources Division is hiring one temporary seasonal staff to lead the summer/early fall monitoring work. This position is in the Toxicology and Contaminant Assessment Unit, within the Science and Technical Support Section. This position will be responsible for leading the planning and coordination of four other seasonal staff to complete the 2022 Stream Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program. **The program involves collecting benthic macroinvertebrate samples (aquatic insects and other organisms) from approximately 180 streams throughout King County, as well as collection of detailed field site information to document in-stream and riparian habitat conditions.**

The position duration is approximately 6 months, starting by June 5 and ending in late November. King County will provide all necessary personal field gear (hip boots or waders, safety equipment, etc.), a computer, as well as a vehicle to travel from downtown to field sampling locations.

At the end of the season, there may also be an opportunity to provide support to a variety of other natural resource projects as needed and as time allows either by telecommuting or at various work sites throughout King County.

#### Who May Apply

**This position is open to everyone.** King County values diverse perspectives and life experiences. We encourage people of all backgrounds to apply including people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQ+, people with disabilities, and veterans.

#### Work Schedule

The work schedule for the Seasonal Environmental Specialist I (Short Term Temporary) will be Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for some weeks and Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., for other weeks, and regardless of schedule will be 40 hours per week. You must be able to commit to working 40 hours a week during the entire period to be eligible for consideration. Sampling days will be 8-10 hours long. This is an overtime eligible position that is subject to the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Work outside of business hours may be required.

#### Work Location

This position will report to King Street Center (201 S. Jackson St, Seattle WA 98104) on sampling days. For 1-2 days each week, this position will be teleworking.

#### Hourly Rate: \$31.81-\$40.32

This position is open to all qualified applicants.

#### Temporary Telecommuting Requirement

The work associated with this position will be performed predominantly in a **hybrid work environment**; through a combination of teleworking complemented with onsite work and meetings as needed. Employees will have access to shared workspaces at various King County facilities. Employees must reside in Washington state and within a reasonable distance to their King County worksite to respond to workplace reporting requirements.

Employees will be provided with a County issued laptop and must maintain a workspace with an internet connection (access may be supplemented in some situations) where they can reliably perform work and remain available and responsive during scheduled work hours. Please note that when an employee conducts work that is likely to bring them in contact with another individual, safety precautions are required, including the [wearing of masks in some situations](#). King County is doing its part to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and remains committed to reducing our carbon footprint.

King County has a robust collection of [tools and resources](#) to support working remotely. The individual selected for this opportunity will be joining an innovative and progressive team that is redefining how we work as we transition to the department's hybrid environment.

### **Special Requirements**

The sampling work is strenuous and accessing some sampling sites requires hiking up to a mile through dense vegetation with bulky and heavy (~ 40 lbs.) sampling equipment. A basic physical examination is required before employment. Sampling days will be 8-10 hours long.

### **Our Ideal Candidate Will Have the Following Competencies:**

Ensures Accountability – Holds self and others accountable to meet commitments

Manages complexity – Makes sense of complex, high quantity, and sometimes contradictory information to effectively solve problems.

Resourcefulness – Secures and deploys resources effectively and efficiently.

Collaborates – Builds partnerships and collaborates with others to meet shared objectives.

Situational adaptability – Adapts approach and demeanor in real time to match the shifting demands of different situations.

### **PRIMARY DUTIES INCLUDE:**

- Plan ahead for sampling season including:
  - Inventory and order equipment and supplies
  - Contact landowners for access permission
  - Prepare sampling resources, maps, field kits
  - Equipment cleaning and maintenance
- Perform season ending tasks such as:
  - Inventory and order equipment and supplies
  - Equipment cleaning and maintenance
  - Data entry
- Plan team sampling schedules on a weekly basis, track sampling progress through the season.
- Responsible for tracking team status and safety; troubleshooting sampling issues as needed under guidance of King County biologists.
- Collect macroinvertebrate samples and habitat measurements outdoors 2 to 3 days a week in streams throughout King County, following established scientific protocols.
- Data entry, quality control verification of data, and organize data.
- Help finalize sampling protocol and quality assurance/quality control documents.
- Provide general support for a variety of other natural resources/water quality related projects as needed
- Work collaboratively in a team environment.
- Maintain temperature loggers (equipment measuring temperature) by replacing batteries, checking logger accuracy, and programming and downloading data from loggers.

### **REQUIRED SKILLS:**

- 2 years of education or 1 year field research experience in the natural sciences (ecology, biology, environmental science or related field)
- Familiarity with technical or scientific writing skills through educational or work experience.
- Demonstrated organization skills and attention to detail.
- Ability to work independently, take initiative and make sound decisions.
- Ability to work collaboratively with a team

- Clear and professional oral communication skills
- Experience in aquatic sampling or environmental monitoring.
- Proficiency with commonly used computer software (Microsoft Outlook, Excel, Word)
- Strong interest in working outdoors in a range of conditions.
- Ability to read a map and effectively navigate in both rural and urban areas to accurately locate field sampling locations (without the aid of a cell phone)
- Ability to swim (First Aid and CPR training will be provided)
- Valid WA State driver's license (or ability to obtain one upon hire)

#### **Desirable**

- Bachelor's degree in the natural sciences (e.g., biology, ecology, hydrology, environmental science) or 2 years of field research experience in natural sciences
- At least 6 months experience conducting aquatic sampling or environmental monitoring.
- Specific experience with in-stream and habitat data collection.
- ArcGIS or ArcGIS Pro skills
- R software skills
- Experience working with temperature loggers and/or temperature data
- Experience leading a team

**Application and Selection Process:** Application materials will be screened for clarity, completeness including online application, cover letter and resume, and responsiveness to the list of qualifications, skills, and abilities. The most competitive candidates may be invited to participate in one or more panel interviews. **Applications without the following required materials may not be considered for this position.**

- Resume
- Cover Letter detailing your background and what you can bring to this position

**Union Representation:** This position is represented by the PROTECT17 Union.

Please submit your resume, along with a letter of interest describing how you meet the job requirements and why you would be a great candidate for this position **by March 27, 2023** to Jenée Colton at [jenee.colton@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jenee.colton@kingcounty.gov). Please note we are hiring for two different positions; this announcement is for the Environmental Specialist position and there are also several Environmental Aide positions (applications due by April 3). Please specify which position you are apply for in your cover letter, and if you would like to be considered for both positions, please submit a separate cover letter for each.

Questions – Please contact either Jenée Colton at [jenee.colton@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jenee.colton@kingcounty.gov) or the Program Manager, Kate Macneale at [kate.macneale@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kate.macneale@kingcounty.gov) Human Resources Sr. Analyst Calvin Rivers at [crivers@kingcounty.gov](mailto:crivers@kingcounty.gov).