



Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

145 Dennison Road Essex, CT 06426 | +1 860 581 8554 | www.rivercog.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

RiverCOG is currently seeking candidates to support diverse programs. Primary support is for our aquatic invasive species water chestnut mitigation program and secondary support would be for our digital mapping / Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and document scanning programs.

The seasonal position will run from the end of May until the end of August or middle of September. Duties will include the safe operation and maintenance of a 2023 Lowe L1852MT 17'10" Jon boat with a tillered 40hp Mercury motor, searching for, pulling, and disposing of the invasive aquatic plant water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) where needed from Essex and Lyme north to Cromwell and Portland, along the Connecticut River. This work will be coordinated with the towns and partner organizations. The position can be filled as a part-time position, working just on the Connecticut River or as a full-time position including GIS and document scanning when not on the river.

Applicants must have or obtain a Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/boating/education/boating-classes>). Applicants should also be a strong swimmer, be able to lift heavy loads, and have experience running small boats in a river system and in coves where water is shallow (such as the Connecticut River). Experience with ArcGIS either through work or educational experience, or the aptitude to learn is desired. Successful candidates will be responsible, independent, 19 years of age or older, and physically able to complete the task. Pulling of water chestnut is a physically demanding job, but will keep the river beautiful, it's ecosystem healthy, and prevent the spread of the aquatic invasive plant to other bodies of water. Those seeking or that have a college degree in environmental studies or related field and experience with GPS/GIS a plus.

The water chestnut work will be somewhat flexible but primarily take place every other week for 3 – 4 days of the week, and time on the water each day will be approximately 5+hrs. Water chestnut work will begin the last week of May.

On days when going out on the river is not scheduled or possible, in-office GIS and document scanning tasks may be scheduled.

Document Scanning

RiverCOG would like to digitize its paper records to cut down on storage needs for physical documents. We have a Laserfiche license for scanning, processing, and

organizing scanned documents. Basic familiarity with windows-based computing is required. Attention to detail and a keen sense of organization recommended.

GIS Mapping

RiverCOG has several GIS projects that require regular maintenance. We have several initiatives including but not limited to updating the regional land use layer, updating the regional zoning layer, creation of a regional open space layer, creation of a regional agricultural land layer, various specialty maps for our member towns and compilation of regional census data for our data dashboard. Solid understanding of ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Online required. Familiarity with Microsoft Excel and database topology is highly recommended.

Applicants must have their own transportation to the marina and RiverCOG office. Work locations will be based out of Haddam on the west side of the river and Essex. Work hours will be from Monday – Friday and water chestnut work start times may be weather and tide dependent but will start no earlier than 8am. The agencies regular office hours are from 9 – 5.

Pay will be from \$22.00 - \$30.00/hr. depending on job and educational experience.

Send a cover letter and resume to Executive Director, RiverCOG, 145 Dennison Rd., Essex, CT 06426-1361 or Email: mburns@rivercog.org (include water chestnut in the cover letter and email subject).

Deadline: Applications Accepted Until Positions Filled

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

RiverCOG is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and strongly encourages applications of women, minorities, and persons with disabilities.