

# Cacapon Institute

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October 6, 2020

## Riparian Forester

**Cacapon Institute seeks a full-time, Riparian Forester.** The successful applicant will focus on planting and maintaining riparian forest buffers in the Potomac Basin of West Virginia with an emphasis on the USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. In addition, the employee will participate in the full range of CI's non-profit activities including urban forestry, green infrastructure, education, watershed research, grant writing, and fundraising.

## Responsibilities

1. Recruit property owners for riparian tree plantings and work with WV Division of Forestry, WV Department of Agriculture, and USDA to contract landowners for Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). In addition to CREP, recruit public and private landowners for riparian tree plantings. When hired, the successful applicant will:
  - a. become thoroughly versed in the rules and methods of CREP,
  - b. learn to promote CREP and prepare outreach material to recruit participants,
  - c. map potential riparian planting and land owners using ArcGIS, tax property parcel information, land cover data, etc.
  - d. travel throughout the Potomac Basin to inventory and inspect riparian forest planting
  - e. work with the general public including students, business and social institutions, faith based organization, elected officials, and watershed groups to promote CREP, riparian buffers, and tree planting in general.
2. Support CI's goal to reduce non-point source water pollution by assisting with the design and installation of Chesapeake Bay Program best management practices including Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree and our schoolyard reforestation efforts.
3. Support the efforts of the Potomac Watershed Partnership and the Chesapeake Bay Program Forestry Workgroup.

**In addition**, the successful candidate must be willing to learn a wide range of skills in support of CI's goal to integrate watershed science and education including, but not limited to, field and laboratory data collection, public outreach and education, newsletter publishing, website design, and media and fundraising campaigning.

*We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, faith, or sexual orientation.  
We strive to be inclusive, regardless of age or disability, and seek a diverse workforce and audience.*

*From the Cacapon River to the Potomac to the Chesapeake Bay,  
we protect rivers and watersheds using science and education.*

## **REQUIREMENTS**

- A desire to engage and educate audiences of youth and adults on the importance of reducing non-point source stormwater runoff pollution
- Bachelor's degree, preferably in forestry or environmental science
- Exceptional coordination and outreach skills including managing succinct written and verbal correspondence
- An aptitude for planning and problem solving and an instinct for taking the initiative
- Be personable, possess good "people skills", have a desire to travel, and the ability to work irregular hours including weekends and evenings
- Proficiency in ArcGIS, GPS, and map reading
- Proficiency in MS Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, etc.); and, have the ability to learn project specific software (e.g. Adobe Photoshop, Wordpress)
- Have a clean driving record, reliable transportation, and insurance
- Be capable of passing a background check (required by some school systems)
- Willingness to travel and work evening and weekends as needed
- Enjoy strenuous outdoor activities, occasionally in inclement weather, and have the ability to lift 20 lbs and carry it 50 paces. (A waiver is possible for applicants with special needs.)

**COMPENSATION:** Annual salary of \$32,000-\$36,000 with holidays, vacation, personal days, and a Health Reimbursement Allowance. CI covers mileage and travel costs, including per diem. There will be a three (3) month probationary period.

## **Cacapon Institute**

Since 1985, Cacapon Institute has promoted positive change in environmental behavior and increased effectiveness of environmental actions. Our science programs address the need for a continuing record of water quality to assess trends, identify problems, and formulate solutions. We have a history of innovation beginning with the 1988 "*Portrait of A River: The Ecological Baseline of the Cacapon River*" that is widely recognized as a national model. We remain on the forefront of Chesapeake Bay science and restoration. Our education programs fill the need for school-based watershed education that, when connected to surrounding community, foster the generational shift in attitude that will achieve the change in behavior that is required to restore the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. We have a tradition of fostering and working within partnerships to achieve our goals; we are a member of the West Virginia Tributary Team, Chesapeake Bay Program's Education & Forestry workgroups, Potomac Watershed Partnership, River Network, and other state, regional, and national organizations.

Apply by Friday, October 30, 2020. Email [ci@cacaponinstitute.org](mailto:ci@cacaponinstitute.org) with the subject "Riparian Forester" and attach:

- letter of interest in Cacapon Institute's Riparian Forester position (generic letters of interest will not be acknowledged),
- resume or CV including school and/or work history for no less than the past three years, and,
- names and contact information for three supervisor-references from work or school.

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