

Land Stewardship Project Job Announcement LSP's *Bridge To Soil Health* Staff Position

The Land Stewardship Project (LSP) is seeking a full-time staff member to join our *Bridge To Soil Health* organizing initiative, based in southeastern Minnesota (Lewiston). This initiative works directly with, and expands, a strong network of mid-sized crop and livestock farmers in the region that wish to make on-farm changes that build soil health and organic matter levels, improve yields, sequester carbon, and enhance water quality and family farm profitability. The initiative also engages farmers in public policy discussion and prioritizing of much-needed public policy reforms that support soil health, improved conservation and more farmers on the land.

Qualifications

- Knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, the growing range of soil-building methods being demonstrated by farmers in the Upper Midwest, including cover crops, no-till, and managed rotational grazing.
- Solid firsthand background and experience in commercial scale crop and livestock production, and ability to relate well to farmers.
- Group workshop facilitation skills. Commitment to the importance of farmer-to-farmer learning.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills. Proficiency with electronic communication tools, including e-mail, social media, digital photography and video.
- Commitment to the vision, goals and community organizing methods of LSP (<u>http://landstewardshipproject.org/about/mission</u>).
- Outgoing personality, telephone skills, community organizing and/or sales experience, a track record of working well in a team setting, as well as a good sense of humor, are all needed.
- Bachelor's degree in soils, agronomy, animal science or agriculture education.
- Reliable vehicle and willingness to travel regionally.

Primary Responsibilities

Organize soil-building workshops and learning circles. Conduct 1-to-1 farm visits. Develop thorough scientific understanding of soil-building methods, farmers' on-farm financial potential, their on-farm applicability, and a knowledge of the research in the field. Help expand LSP's Soil Builders' Network of farmers wanting more information, and work with farmers interested in making changes on their own farms. Create video shorts of emerging soil health farming methods. Recruit additional LSP farmer-members.

Hours, Location, Supervision & Compensation

This is a full-time salaried position, based in LSP's southeastern Minnesota office in Lewiston. Compensation is \$36,000 to \$42,000, depending on experience and qualifications. Excellent health/dental insurance and a comprehensive benefits package. The starting date for this position is November 1, 2017.

The Land Stewardship Project

LSP is a grassroots membership organization, based in Minnesota, with a mission of fostering an ethic of stewardship for farmland, promoting sustainable agriculture, and developing healthy communities. LSP uses a community organizing, education-to-action approach, with the goal of achieving major change in our agriculture and food system towards stewardship, economic and racial justice and community vitality. We have 4,000 member-households.

To Apply

Please submit cover letter and resume by Oct. 1, 2017, to Doug Nopar at dnopar@landstewardshipproject.org.