



# Byron Forest Preserve District

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT RESTORATION ECOLOGIST AND CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MANAGER

The Byron Forest Preserve District is seeking to hire a full-time Restoration Ecologist and Capital Development Project Manager. This position will assist with guiding and implementing all land management activities and projects at all District preserves. The ecologist/project manager will work directly with all full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees as well as volunteers. The Restoration Ecologist and Capital Development Project Manager is responsible for implementing and advancing ecological restoration activities on lands owned and managed by the Byron Forest Preserve District. Regular duties include invasive plant species management, prescribed fire application, native plant re-introduction and seed collection, brush management, equipment operation and trail maintenance. The position also leads and assists with capital construction and development projects including sign installation, shelter construction and maintenance, woodshop projects, landscaping projects, fencing, and other preserve, building, and park projects as assigned.

See the attached job description outlining the position duties, education, training, experience, physical/mental requirements, and necessary special requirements. Resumes will be accepted until **June 13, 2025**.

Application procedure:

Apply online at <https://www.byronforestpreserve.com/about-us/employment>

For additional information contact:

Superintendent Russell Brunner  
[russell@byronforestpreserve.com](mailto:russell@byronforestpreserve.com)  
815-234-8535 ext.219

or

Assistant Superintendent Scott Kruger  
[scott@byronforestpreserve.com](mailto:scott@byronforestpreserve.com)  
815-238-8535 ext. 221.

The Byron Forest Preserve District does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, gender, national origin, age, or disability. In offering employment opportunities to the public, the Forest Preserve District will make reasonable modifications to ensure that all people have an equal opportunity. Persons believing that they have been discriminated against by the Byron Forest Preserve District may file a complaint alleging discrimination with the Byron Forest Preserve District or the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, [www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov).

**BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
JOB DESCRIPTION**

**TITLE: RESTORATION ECOLOGIST AND CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT MANAGER**  
**DIVISION: RESTORATION/PARKS** **DATE: MAY 2025**  
**TERM: FULL-TIME PERMANENT POSITION**

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**BASIC FUNCTION**

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The Restoration Ecologist and Capital Development Project Manager position is a full-time, permanent position responsible for implementing and advancing ecological restoration activities on lands owned and managed by the Byron Forest Preserve District. This includes invasive plant species management, prescribed fire application, native plant re-introduction, seed collection, brush management, equipment operation and trail maintenance. The position also leads and assists with capital construction and development projects including sign installation, shelter construction and maintenance, woodshop projects, landscaping projects, fencing, and other preserve, building, and park projects as assigned.

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**ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

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Reports to:

- Superintendent of Restoration/Parks

Supervises:

- Seasonal, part-time and volunteers

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**BASIC FUNCTION**

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- Implement natural resource management activities including invasive species control, brush control, native seed planting, seed collecting and processing, tree planting and other activities using manual, mechanical, cultural and chemical practices.
- Document stewardship activities and/or monitor species using computers and handheld electronic equipment.
- Implement prescribed fire plans as prescribed by burn boss.
- Maintains and operates most types of hand tools and power equipment.
- Adheres to all risk management rules and regulations issued by the district.
- Provide basic in-field training to crew members in the areas of plant ID, equipment operation and maintenance.
- Ensure that crew members are implementing ecological restoration activities according to prescription and in adherence to organizational policies and standard operating procedures.
- Participate in BFPD events with internal and external partners.
- Collaborate with supervisors to address crew and equipment issues and concerns.
- Assist with capital construction and development projects including sign installation, shelter construction and maintenance, woodshop projects, landscaping projects, fencing, and other projects as assigned.
- Assist the education department with school field trips as needed.
- Park maintenance tasks which include mowing, string trimming, debris and litter cleanup, landscaping, and other tasks.

- Requires ability to work well independently and with forest preserve staff and to assist and be helpful with forest preserve visitors.
- Other duties as assigned by supervisor.

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### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

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- Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resource Management or related field preferred.
- Experience in restoration/park management including prescribed fire, invasive species control, chainsaw operation, equipment operation and native seed collecting, processing and planting.
- Required to possess or obtain an Illinois Pesticide Operator or Applicator's license.
- Required to have or obtain a Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL).
- National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG):
  - S-130 Firefighter Training (within 6 months of hire)
  - S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior (within 6 months of hire)
  - S-131 Firefighter Type 1 (within 1 year of hire)
  - S-219 Firing Operations (within 1 year of hire)
- Safety and Woods Worker (SAWW) Levels 1 and 2 (within one year of hire)
- Experience with carpentry is preferred.
- Experience with basic maintenance to vehicles and equipment preferred.
- Such alternatives to the above qualifications as the Superintendent or Executive Director may find appropriate.

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### **WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND CONDITIONS**

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- Requires considerable physical exertion and/or muscular strain
- Lift and carry, bend and reach routinely
- Lift and carry 50lbs
- Carry 30lbs on your back.
- Safely operate hand tools and landscaping tools such as: drills, clearing saws, walk behind mowers, hedge trimmers, hand pruners, weed eaters, weed spades, and shovels.
- Safely operate multiple types of district vehicles and equipment including but not limited to tractors, UTVs, trucks, mowers, skid steers, back hoe, and a mini-excavator.
- Work outside in all types of weather conditions (hot and humid summer weather).
- Work in conditions where there are biting and stinging insects and tall vegetation.
- Work in conditions with possibilities of exposure to minor cuts and burns.
- Work a flexible schedule that may vary from week to week or even daily.
- Work with proper personal protective equipment.

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### **PAY RANGE AND BENEFITS**

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Salary: \$47,000 - \$54,000

Schedule: Typical work schedule is 40 hours per week, Monday-Friday, 6 am to 2:30 pm but schedule may change due to seasonality. Occasional extended week days and/or weekend hours will be required.