

Organization: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Application deadline: Friday, February 27, 2015

Location: Shawnee National Forest, Dixon Springs, Illinois

Duration: Ideally early-May through early-August (dates flexible)

Job type: Seasonal field assistant

Seeking full-time field assistant for a project on the drought response of forests managed with fire in extreme southern Illinois. The field assistant will work closely with a graduate student to maintain a drought experiment, monitor tree physiological responses, conduct vegetation surveys and collect soil hyphae. The work will be carried out in mature oak-hickory forests of Shawnee National Forest. Salary is commensurate with experience. Housing and field vehicle provided, though travel to and from Illinois is not provided. The work schedule will average 40 hours per week, though it will ultimately depend on weather. Preferred start date is May 4th, 2015 with a 3 month contract.

Qualifications: B.A. / B.S. degree in biology, natural resources, or related field is highly preferred. Applicant must have at least one season of fieldwork. Experience measuring leaf gas exchange and/or performing intensive vegetation surveys is a plus, but those keen on gaining these skills are also highly recommended to apply. The field assistant must be comfortable hiking several miles a day and working long hours outside, often in hot, humid conditions. The assistant is expected to be a highly motivated, independent, and responsible team member. Applicant must have a valid driver's license and be considered insurable by the University of Illinois. Although a field vehicle will be used for all work-related activities, it is preferred that the assistant has a vehicle for personal use.

To Apply: Please assemble the following into a single PDF and email to Tyler Refsland ([refslan2 \[at\] illinois.edu](mailto:refslan2@illinois.edu)):

- (1) A one-page cover letter describing your interests, reasons for applying and specific dates of availability,
- (2) resume or CV,
- (3) unofficial transcripts, and
- (4) contact information for three references