



# GOLDEN SANDS

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

1100 Main Street, Suite #150

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone (715) 343-6215

[www.goldensandsrcd.org](http://www.goldensandsrcd.org)

*a 501(c)3 non-profit conservation organization*

*Conservation That Works!*

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Soil Conservationist / Grazing Specialist

### Position Location:

Soil Conservationist / Grazing Specialist will be based in the NRCS Service Center Prairie du Chien office in Crawford County.

### Overview:

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. is seeking a **Soil Conservationist / Grazing Specialist** for a term position. This position will work in a joint capacity with Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council Inc. (Golden Sands RC&D) and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to promote, accelerate enrollment, and coordinate and implement the conservation provisions of the Farm Bill. The position will be based in the NRCS Service Center in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and will provide conservation technical assistance to agricultural producers located in Crawford County and southwest Wisconsin. The staff individual will be an employee of Golden Sands RC&D and will receive daily guidance provided by local NRCS staff.

This position is responsible for a variety of duties which assists NRCS District Conservationists and Area Staff Specialists in developing and carrying out a coordinated natural resources conservation program that is tailored to customers' needs and meets USDA and NRCS requirements.

This position is made available as a result of a cooperative agreement between Golden Sands RC&D and NRCS, and has funding secured through September 2021. Continued employment beyond September 2021 may be possible depending upon funding availability.

### Duties:

Provides technical assistance to private landowners (i.e. individual farmers), local government bodies, tribal entities, state and Federal agencies, and the general public in the development, application, and maintenance of a coordinated natural resources conservation program.

Works with farmers to develop conventional conservation plans addressing natural resource concerns; provides information concerning Farm Bill conservation programs; and develops conservation contracts according to the NRCS Conservation Program Contracting Manual. Performs on-site inventory and

evaluations; recommends and assists in conducting necessary preliminary surveys; and provides recommendations for feasible practices to solve resource concerns. Recommends conservation practices to farmers which help control erosion and conserve soil and water.

Utilizes NRCS computer software (Conservation Desktop, ProTracts, Conservation Assessment Ranking Tool, etc.) and ARCGIS for the development and management of conservation plans and technical assistance.

Performs informational duties such as writing stories and news articles, giving talks at meetings; participating in conservation demonstrations; conducting conservation field tours; staffing NRCS and Golden Sands RC&D displays at various outreach events, and attending meetings as a Golden Sands RC&D representative.

Occasional travel required.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

**Required Skills:**

- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with agricultural producers with a focus on understanding their goals and objectives for their property.
- Knowledge of soil conservation, agronomy, natural resource conservation, and ability to utilize planning tools in the development of conservation plans.
- Ability to work independently with limited supervision and with diverse clientele.
- Strong commitment to quality customer service with landowners and partners.
- Knowledge of USDA Farm Bill conservation programs.
- Excellent verbal and written communication.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Valid driver's license required; some use of personal vehicle required (mileage reimbursement provided).
- Able to obtain USDA Federal Security Clearance.

**Preferred Skills:**

- Knowledge of livestock grazing and the development of prescribed grazing management plans.

**Education Requirement:**

Bachelor degree (minimum) in natural resource management, soil conservation, or related agricultural field.

**Compensation:**

\$16.73 - \$25.35 an hour commensurate with experience. Benefits include health insurance stipend, Life/LTD/STD/ADD, paid sick time, paid vacation, Federal holidays, and 403(b) retirement plan.

**Application Requirements:** Submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references.

**Application Deadline:** May 4th, 2020 (1pm CDT)

**Submit Application Package as PDF file to:** [joshua.benes@goldensandsrcd.org](mailto:joshua.benes@goldensandsrcd.org)

For questions about the position or application process, contact Joshua Benes, Executive Director:  
715-343-6215 x 701 or [joshua.benes@goldensandsrcd.org](mailto:joshua.benes@goldensandsrcd.org)