

Berkshire Natural Resources Council

Conservation Associate

Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC) is a non-profit land trust working to protect and preserve the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the Berkshires for public benefit and enjoyment. Starting in 1967, BNRC has protected over 20,000 acres of conservation land in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. BNRC maintains over 60 miles of public hiking trails throughout its properties. BNRC recently launched The High Road, a vision for connecting trails and conservation lands to communities throughout our region.

Position Overview:

BNRC seeks applicants for the position of Conservation Associate. This full-time, primarily office-based (80/20) position offers competitive salary and benefits. The Conservation Associate works within the Conservation Department and supports all conservation-related activities, with a primary focus on projects to advance The High Road, including acquisition of properties and easements, organizing and outreach, and planning.

The Conservation Associate will support the work of the Director of Land Conservation and Public Programs Director, preparing draft conservation restrictions, easements, maps and communication materials. The individual will help BNRC expand existing reserves and strengthen its conservation program as it pursues The High Road, an ambitious vision for connecting the Berkshires.

The ideal candidate will be a self-starting, motivated individual eager to launch a career in land conservation. The ideal candidate will have an understanding of real estate transactions, and the ability to pair interpersonal skills with conservation transactions, estate planning considerations and conservation biology. Background in legal studies, real estate, environmental studies and/or land use planning. Pay range is \$40-45,000, depending on experience.

Responsibilities:

The Associate provides program support for the Land Conservation department:

- Support and manage acquisition projects with landowners, prospective land donors, and partners
- Navigate State and Federal conservation programs in the pursuit of resource-based acquisition projects
- Prepare maps for possible conservation projects
- Create draft conservation restrictions and trail easements
- Prepare final maps and project materials for grant applications
- Support and conduct engagement efforts with municipal, public, and other conservation entities in order to advance The High Road
- Be an ambassador for BNRC with landowners, visitors, and stakeholders



BERKSHIRE
Natural Resources Council

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Minimum qualifications include:

- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple, varied projects and efforts at one time
- Basic knowledge of real estate transactions
- Empathetic and observant listener
- Excellent verbal and written communication abilities
- Detail oriented
- Moderate-level GIS proficiency
- Microsoft Office proficiency
- Conversant with natural resources issues
- Sufficient physical fitness to walk land, on and off trail
- Experience communicating with public officials
- Familiarity with the Berkshire landscape preferred

Education and work experience requirements:

- Bachelor's degree required; study in field of environmental sciences a plus
- Preferred applicant has 3-5 years of relevant professional post-college experience

Interviews to be scheduled after March 2, 2020; the position is opened until filled. Contact Mackenzie Greer with questions. Send cover letter, résumé, and writing sample (1-3 pages, any subject) to:

mgreer@bnrc.org (preferred)
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