

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**Position Title:** Land Manager

**Position Description:** The Land Manager will be responsible for implementing land management plans on over 3,000 acres of nature preserves permanently protected by Mississippi Valley Conservancy. The Land Manager will develop partnerships with public and private organizations, engage the local community, volunteers, and partners in strategic land conservation, and secure grant funding to effectively manage MVC lands which include forests, prairies, wetlands, and farmlands.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Represent Mississippi Valley Conservancy as a leader in innovative, land stewardship and land management
- Ecological restoration and management of MVC lands including: planning and leading prescribed burns, species inventory, timber stand improvement, invasive species control, fencing, trailhead construction, boundary posting and other maintenance and management
- Secure private and government grants, cost-sharing, and donations
- Coordinate work with local volunteers, intern field crews, schools and student groups, officials, partner organizations, and governmental agencies
- Draft land management plans and project plans
- Create annual work plans, project budgets, progress reports
- Lead educational hikes, volunteer workdays, and public presentations

**Essential Job Functions and Abilities:**

- Willingness and ability to perform physical labor and strenuous work outdoors in adverse weather conditions and rugged terrain
- Ability to pass an arduous level work capacity pack test for wildland firefighters(walk 3 miles in under 45 minutes carrying a 45 pound pack)
- Possess valid driver's license and dependable vehicle
- Ability to drive large pick-up truck with a trailer
- Ability to safely and effectively use a chain saw, brush cutter, backpack herbicide sprayers, pumper units, backpack pump cans, shovels, rakes, Pulaski, etc. for extended periods of time
- Ability to communicate well and maintain good relations with volunteers, landowners, government agencies, and partner organizations
- Ability to function as a cooperative and supportive team member with other MVC staff
- Ability to identify habitat types, native and invasive plant species
- Ability to prepare and manage a budget for land management activities
- Ability to maintain and repair chain saws, pumps, and other equipment

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree in biology, natural resources, environmental science, or similar field of study and 2 years of directly related professional experience in land conservation work
- A solid understanding of and experience with ecological restoration principles
- Experience managing prairie, forest, riparian and wetland habitats
- Experience with grant writing and fundraising for land management activities
- Supervisory experience
- Experience managing complex or multiple projects including organizing workload schedules and budgets under deadlines

- Experience planning and leading prescribed burns
- Experience in the use and maintenance of chainsaws, pumper units, brush-cutters, sprayers, mowers, ATV's and other equipment
- Experience in invasive species control methods and herbicide use
- Experience drafting land management plans and prescribed burn plans
- Knowledge of flora, fauna, and geology of the Driftless Area
- Successful candidate will be highly motivated, self-directed, flexible, and detail-oriented
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Computer and technology proficiency, including GIS and GPS mapping

**Supervisor:** Land Protection and Management Director

**Compensation:** MVC offers competitive compensation, excellent benefits, flexible work policies and a collaborative work environment. We also provide professional development opportunities. As a result, you will find a culture that supports and inspires conservation achievement and personal development.

**Time Commitment:** Full Time

**Office Location:** La Crosse, Wisconsin

**About Us:** Mississippi Valley Conservancy is a growing, award-winning, nonprofit land trust headquartered in La Crosse, Wisconsin and working within La Crosse, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Monroe, Vernon, Richland, Jackson, Crawford, and Grant Counties, WI. Since 1997, MVC has permanently conserved more than 15,500 acres. Its accomplishments have resulted in MVC being named "Land Trust of the Year" for Wisconsin, "Conservation Organization of the Year" in La Crosse County, and "Friend of Conservation – Outstanding Organization" for Wisconsin in 2009. Its mission is to conserve native and working landscapes that enrich our communities through private, voluntary action, for the health and well being of current and future generations.

**To Apply:** Send letter of interest, resume and list of references by e-mail in Microsoft Word or PDF format to [achurch\[at\]mississippivalleyconservancy.org](mailto:achurch[at]mississippivalleyconservancy.org), or mail to Mississippi Valley Conservancy, P.O. Box 2611, La Crosse, WI 54602-2611.  
**Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.**