

Job Title: Seasonal Taxonomist and Surveyor

Number of Positions: 1

Location: Purdue University, West Lafayette Campus

Full/Part Time: Part-Time/Flexible Hours

Regular/Temporary: Temporary

Hire Salary: \$15/hr

Job Description

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, collaborates with Purdue University Department of Entomology to monitor the state of Indiana for exotic pests. IDNR is seeking individuals to conduct trapping and visual surveys for spotted lanternfly and its host plant tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) in Tippecanoe and surrounding counties, and to pre-screen insect samples collected in trapping studies at high-risk sites throughout the state to determine the presence or absence of specific exotic agriculture and forestry pests.

Responsibilities

The successful candidates will drive a Purdue University vehicle to maintain insect traps and conduct visual survey work around the state. Samples will be sorted and screened for target species. Insects of concern will be passed on to a USDA taxonomist along with the appropriate forms required for identification. The employees will be responsible for entering field data into mobile devices and keeping clear data records for sample screening. Communication of work activities must be made in a clear, concise, and timely manner. All equipment, tools and training will be provided.

Requirements

- Valid driver license and clean driving record

Preferred Experience

- High School diploma or GED
- College course work and/or experience in arboriculture, dendrology, entomology, forestry, horticulture or other natural resource related field
- Experience in insect taxonomy and/or tree identification preferred
- Must have excellent communication, organizational, record keeping and computer skills
- Must be able to work independently

Additional Comments

This is a seasonal position working approximately from May through August, with an option to stay on through December.

If interested, please contact:

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