The Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Coordinator will provide support for a Chesapeake Bay watershed-wide project focused on integrating citizen-based monitoring groups into the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership. This project is the result of a collaborative partnership between the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance), the Izaak Walton League of America, the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) at Dickinson College, and the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Integration and Application Network (UMCES IAN), later referred to as the project team. The project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The lead partner managing the grant is the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. For more information on the Alliance and the grant, please visit https://allianceforthebay.org. The Izaak Walton League is a lead partner on the project, the organization where this position will be housed and directly supervised, and a sub-awardee of the grant reporting to the Alliance.

The mission of the Izaak Walton League of America, founded in 1922, is to protect and conserve our shared heritage of wildlife, clean air and water, forest and soils. Our members and staff combine hands-on conservation action, policy work with legislatures and resource agencies, and public education to pursue our conservation goals at the local, state and national levels. As a strong responsible voice representing outdoor recreationists, we occupy a special niche in the conservation community.

The goal of the Chesapeake Bay Monitoring project is to increase the amount of water quality monitoring data available to make management decisions and track progress of Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts. In order to achieve this goal, project partners will provide technical, logistical, and outreach support for the integration of volunteer citizen-based and other non-governmental monitoring networks into the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership.

**SUMMARY OF POSITION**

The Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Coordinator will support the project leads, the Izaak Walton League and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, in coordinating a broad group of partners, including federal, state, and local government agencies; national, regional, and local nonprofit organizations; universities and research institutions; and other partners to integrate volunteer and other non-governmental water quality monitoring data into the
Chesapeake Bay Program’s system for tracking progress toward Bay restoration goals. In addition to partnership-building, the position also will gather data and information to help develop new, scientifically-rigorous water monitoring protocols. The Monitoring Coordinator will assist with recruiting, training, and managing volunteers and other non-governmental entities to collect data to fill temporal, spatial, and other gaps in the existing data set.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Partnership Building**

- Build and maintain relationships with Chesapeake Bay Program staff, the project team, water quality monitoring groups, Izaak Walton League chapters, and other partners.
- Represent the Izaak Walton League and the project team at meetings of the Chesapeake Bay Program’s Scientific, Technical Assessment, and Reporting (STAR) workgroups.
- Inventory volunteer citizen-based and other non-governmental monitoring groups throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed and develop a catalog of groups including the type of data collected, protocols used, and whether they have an approved quality assurance plan.
- Coordinate meeting and activity logistics for the Izaak Walton League’s volunteer Chesapeake Bay Working Group.
- Assist with coordination and facilitation of conference calls, webinars, and/or meetings of monitoring groups that focus on citizen monitoring program integration.

**Assist with Development of Water Monitoring Protocol**

- Work with Chesapeake Bay Program staff and the project team to identify spatial and temporal gaps in data currently collected by professionals and citizen-based and non-traditional monitoring partners.
- Assist with development/refinement of scientifically-valid and user-friendly protocols to meet needs identified by program partners that are not currently met by existing monitoring groups.

**Recruit, Train, and Support Monitors**

- Recruit, train, and manage networks of volunteers to monitor water quality, primarily in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. This will include training volunteers to conduct water quality monitoring following the Izaak Walton League’s Save Our Streams and Virginia Save Our Streams protocols, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay’s River Trends protocols, and any new protocols developed through this project.
- Develop website content for an online toolkit for monitoring groups, including information on new protocols and online data entry and retrieval.
- Develop interactive water monitoring training materials for diverse audiences.
- Provide data management and quality assurance oversight as needed.
- Coordinate equipment loan and/or grant programs for local monitoring programs.
Promote Project and Track Progress

- Assist Clean Water Program Director in fundraising efforts.
- Collaborate with the project team on grant proposal development for project support.
- Promote volunteer and non-governmental monitoring through conference presentations, local media, partner organization email lists, and social media.
- Assist in drafting reports on program accomplishments.

Other

- Travel throughout Chesapeake Bay Watershed (MD, VA, PA, DE, WV) in connection with and support of the above.
- Other duties as assigned.

SUPERVISION GIVEN AND RECEIVED

The Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Coordinator reports to and will receive general, day to day instructions, objectives and deadlines from the Izaak Walton League’s Clean Water Program Director, but is also expected to work closely with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay’s Program Manager as needed. He or she will exercise discretion and independent judgment to perform his or her ordinary duties and responsibilities without supervisory direction, in particular with respect to work away from the office. The Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Coordinator also may give some direction to clerical and/or other personnel.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor’s degree in natural sciences or related field.
- A minimum of three years of experience in project management, volunteer coordination, and/or partnership development.
- Interest and demonstrated experience in community outreach, water quality assessment, and stream/tidal monitoring.
- Public speaking and teaching experience.
- Possess a valid driver’s license and own a car for travel throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, including proofreading skills.
- Ability to organize and manage multiple tasks and set priorities.
- Ability to work constructively and cooperatively with a diverse array of staff, volunteers, and partner organizations.
- Computer proficiency in word processing and database programs.
- Experience with social media and producing website content. Experience with content management systems or html coding a plus.
- Independent worker, self-starter, and team player.
- Familiarity with and dedication to conservation.
- Experience with quality assurance project plan development a plus.
PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Work involves both physical exertion and sedentary activities and includes work that involves exposure to the outdoors, including various biological and chemical elements, especially those that are water based, and periods of standing and walking on rough terrain.
- Must be able to sit or stand for up to eight hours at a time while performing work duties.
- Must be able to travel.
- Must be able to bend, stoop, push, and pull, and to lift up to 50 pounds, in the performance of both office-related and field duties.
- Must be able to use fingers bilaterally and unilaterally to operate office equipment.
- Must have vision and hearing corrected to be able to perform essential job functions.
- Must be able to maintain punctuality and attendance as scheduled.
- Must be able to perform essential job functions in an environment that will sometimes include increased levels of work-related stress.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Compensation for the Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Coordinator includes a salary of $38,000 annually and a comprehensive package of employee and health benefits.

HOW TO APPLY

Please email cover letter and resume to the attention of the Clean Water Program Director at sos@iwla.org. Please submit all materials no later than September 13, 2015.

The Izaak Walton League of America is an equal opportunity employer.

http://www.iwla.org/about-us/jobs/chesapeake-bay-monitoring-coordinator