



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

WI State Office

732 Lois Drive
Sun Prairie WI
53590
Ph: (608) 837-2727

OPEN DATE: January 29, 2021

CLOSING DATE: February 12, 2021

POSITION TITLE: Biological Technician –Wildlife

TYPE OF POSITION: Term Appointment with possibility for Benefits, Excepted Service Not to Exceed 13 months (may be extended up to 4 years) *Position will not accrue sick and annual leave. The employee may qualify for health care benefits contingent upon number of hours worked annually.*

WORK SCHEDULE: Intermittent work schedule - work will only be conducted when requested by a supervisor and is also seasonal, with work, when requested, starting approximately April 1 and going through October 31. Occasional weekends, early mornings, and evenings with occasional night work.

ANNOUNCEMENT #: **WI-21-003**

SERIES/GRADE: GS-0404-04/05

FULL PERFORMANCE LEVEL: GS-0404-5.

LOCATION: Spring Green, Wisconsin
(Relocation expenses will not be paid)

SALARY: GS-04 \$15.10 per hour
GS-05 \$16.90 per hour

WHO MAY APPLY:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must be 18 years old
- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959 and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must be registered with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions (proof of registration and/or exemption required). Website: <http://www.sss.gov>.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Resume (include days/months/years worked, work schedule, and grade level if federal)
Transcripts (if qualifying on education)
DD-214 (Member 4 copy) and/or VA letter required for applicable Veteran preference.

Current active duty members must submit a certification that they are expected to be discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions not later than 120 days after the date the certification is submitted.

HOW TO APPLY: Additional materials not listed above (i.e. position descriptions, training certificates, etc.) may not be considered. Applicants who do not submit the required items listed above may not be considered. Applications with all supporting documents must be submitted to the contact office and must be **RECEIVED** by the **CLOSING DATE** of this announcement.

Interested individuals should send a resume, transcripts, veteran documentation (if applicable) to the address listed here:

CONTACT OFFICE:

Charles D. Lovell, District Supervisor
USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
1201 Storbeck Drive
Waupun, WI 53963
(920) 324-4514
Email: Charles.D.Lovell@usda.gov

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you should need the forms identified in above paragraph, contact the District Supervisor for a copy.

DUTIES:

Serves as a member of the WS workforce engaged in wildlife damage management operations.

Incumbent will be required to be familiar with and know how to use various devices, chemicals, tools, firearms and related equipment utilized in wildlife damage management operations.

Must be able to correctly identify current, and forecast future, damage problems and relate them to the depredating species and determine/select the most effective means of control.

Must be highly skilled in the use of various WS control methods and procedures including the use of firearms. Means of control utilized may include the use of snares and traps.

Must be able to discuss Endangered Species concepts, and be familiar with the ranges of the various threatened and endangered species that might come in conflict with any phase of WS programs.

Responsible for, and may instruct others in, the maintenance, repair and safekeeping of tools, supplies and equipment issued. When using toxic materials, must maintain records pursuant to the State Pesticide statutes and regulations and Environmental Protection Agency use restrictions.

Must be able to identify wildlife species, including black bear, deer, turkey, beaver and wolves, by sight, sound, tracks, type of depredation or damage present, examine other appropriate evidence and correctly identify such damage situations and relate them to the depredating species.

Incumbent may be required to serve as instructor and conduct demonstrations and training for cooperators or other interested groups on WS control methods, procedures, and program objectives. This may include preliminary instruction and training of new personnel or WS equipment, devices, chemicals, firearms, etc., reporting procedures, field responsibilities and other technical aspects of the program.

Prepares and submits routine and special reports regarding daily, weekly or monthly activities, observations, events and other relevant data collected.

Coordinates wildlife damage management efforts with the cooperators and cooperator's contractors, particularly in relation to public use.

May be required to pass Certified Applicator examination, as required of persons who use restricted-use pesticides.

Must conduct all operations using approved safety procedures and in accordance with local, State and Federal laws and regulations, and USDA, APHIS, and WS policies.

Must have a valid State Motor Vehicle Operator's or Commercial License, as appropriate. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To qualify, applicants **MUST** meet all minimum qualification requirements, except Medical Requirements, by the closing date of the announcement.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

For the GS-4 Grade Level:

Applicants must have 6 months of general experience and 6 months of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-03 level) that may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors which demonstrates:

- Ability to identify various species of animals.
- Experience recognizing and accurately identifying damage caused by various wildlife species and selecting appropriate species-selective management actions.
- Experience in application of the principles of wildlife ecology and management to support of a wildlife management program.
- Experience keeping routine and basic records of daily activities and observations.

OR

Education Substitution at the GS-4 Grade Level: Successful completion of 2 years of study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be in wildlife. **Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision.**

OR

Combination of Education and Experience at the GS-4 Grade Level:

Applicants may have combinations of successfully completed education and specialized experience to meet total qualification requirements. The total percentages must equal at least 100 percent to qualify for that grade level. **Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision.**

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent in level of difficulty and responsibility to GS-4. This experience is typically in, or related to, the work of the position being filled:

- Experience recognizing and accurately identifying damage caused by various wildlife species and selecting appropriate species-selective management actions.
- Experience using wildlife damage management techniques and methods including, but not limited to foot-hold, body-grip, live traps, cable restraint devices and related equipment.
- Experience preparing reports regarding activities, observations, events, and other relevant data.
- Experience communicating with individuals or groups.

OR

EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:

Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study leading to a bachelor's degree with major study, or at least 24 semester hours, in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics, with at least 6 semester hours in wildlife.

Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision.

OR

COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL:

Applicants may have combinations of successfully completed education and specialized experience to meet total qualification requirements. The total percentages must equal at least 100 percent to qualify for that grade level. **Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision.**

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: (if applicable to your position)

- Must obtain or have a valid state driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles is required.
- As a condition of employment, appropriate security clearance is required for this position.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- Must have a knowledge of and be capable of using:
 - Working with the public and other cooperating agencies
 - Communication skills
 - Electronic equipment (GPS, computer)
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.
- In order to perform the essential duties of this position, you must have the legal and physical ability to possess and discharge firearms. You must be able to pass a government background check and meet any additional requirements to carry and use firearms. A background check will include answering questions about where you've lived, worked, went to school, and any

military history or police records. Selection and retention in this position is contingent on a successfully adjudicated FBI National Criminal History Check (fingerprint check).

Emergency Response – APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. It is difficult to predict the frequency with which such emergency situations may occur – and could range from several emergencies in a year to none over the course of many years. In the event that you are called upon to support an emergency program, this may require irregular working hours, including overtime, and may include duties other than those specified in your official position description. While some emergency program support assignments may be able to be performed at the employee’s current duty station, in other cases employees may be asked to go on-site to a temporary duty state location. In addition, it may be necessary for employees to participate in multiple rotations to an emergency program assignment. Attempts will be made to keep disruption to the employee to a minimum.

See this link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/signature-false-statements/>

NOTE: APPLICANTS FOR THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT. APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON A NEGATIVE DRUG TEST RESULT. INCUMBENTS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON AN ONGOING BASIS AFTER APPOINTMENT, AS DIRECTED.

**** Drug testing and fingerprint cards have been suspended until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to continue employment, selectees will still be required to successfully pass drug tests and submit fingerprint cards once these items are reinstated. ****

Carrying a firearm is a condition of employment – In the passing of the *Lautenberg Amendment*, Congress passed legislation which prohibits anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm or ammunition. If selected you will be required to sign the form, “Inquiry for Positions Requiring Possession of Firearms,” certifying that you meet this criteria.

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy-

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a Case-by-Case basis.

A reasonable accommodation is any change in the workplace, or the way things are customarily done that provides an equal employment opportunity to an individual with a disability. Under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) must provide reasonable accommodations:

- An applicant with a disability needs an accommodation to have an equal opportunity to apply for a job.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to perform the essential job duties or to gain access to the workplace.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to receive equal access to benefits, such as details, training, and office-sponsored events.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position.