



Employment Opportunity The San Diego River Park Foundation Field Associate – Special Removal Clean River Team

The San Diego River Park Foundation was founded in 2001 to create a better future for the San Diego River and San Diego. Additional information about the organization is available at www.sandiegoriver.org. We are seeking an energetic, self-motivated, reliable individual to fill the position of Field Associate. This person will play a role in leading field surveys and volunteer clean-up events along the river. Ideal candidates will be interested in community organizing and engagement, environmental restoration, sustainability, and field work.

Responsibilities:

The San Diego River Park Foundation believes that service is an excellent pathway to long-term stewardship and increased engagement with the San Diego River and its future. This person will play a role in coordinating and hosting volunteer events, including river field surveys and cleanups with a focus on difficult to remove items embedded in the riverbed as part of our “Special Removal Initiative”.

The “Special Removal Initiative” will focus on field work to remove trash in the riverbed that may be buried, submerged, require dismantling, or may be large or bulky items requiring creative strategies to remove. The Field Associate in this position will be an integral part of removing this pollution out of the riverbed for good. This staff person will also work with our habitat restoration team to repair the riparian habitat, potentially including tilling soil, planting native plants or sowing native seed.

Duties will include:

- Planning, coordinating and hosting volunteer events to support our “Special Removal Needed” initiative within the Clean River program, generally consisting of at least 2 field events per week: at least one trash clean-up and additional data surveys and site visits
- Engage, recruit, and build a core volunteer base focused on this initiative
- Coordinating and supervising volunteers to do this work, with typical group sizes ranging from 2-20 regular, trained volunteers
- Coordinate with the Program Manager to game-plan best practice strategies on how to safely remove large items from the riverbed
- Supervise volunteers in safe operation of tools like reciprocating saw, winch, wrecking bars, etc.
- Collaborate with our Land Management Team to work to restore areas of the riverbed that have been impacted by these items and human habitation
- Assist with contributing to and updating data on our online data portal (www.immappler.com/sandiegorivertrash), and using portal to guide clean-ups

- Work with staff to sustain and grow volunteer engagement with the San Diego River Park Foundation through these events, including through photos/videos, social media and storytelling
- Train, mentor and supervise unpaid intern(s) to assist with these events
- Participate in planning with team to advance Clean River Team goals
- Other duties as assigned

Reporting: reports to the Program Manager, but will work as a member of a team

Hours: Part-time (20 hours/week)

Compensation: \$21/hour

The ideal candidate will:

- Be committed to the environmental mission of organization
- Value working with members of the community
- Be able to (and be interested in) work outdoors and get dirty
- Have documented volunteer coordination, community outreach, and/or community organizing experience
- Have some habitat restoration education or experience, and familiarity with Southern California riparian habitats
- Be a self-starter interested in working independently
- Have strong navigational skills for orienting self and team in the riverbed
- Be able to work in a dynamic, small office and with student-interns as well as volunteers of all types
- Be comfortable with using smart phone/tablet technology to access data portal
- Have strong public speaking, communication skills, and commanding presence for volunteer events
- Be flexible, adaptable, and organized with strong multi-tasking and prioritization skills
- Basic knowledge of Google Suite, Word and PowerPoint
- Competency with data analysis in Excel
- Must be able to lift 40+ pounds and walk up to 5 miles on uneven terrain
- Must have a current driver's license and good driving record, and be able to drive a company vehicle (small truck)
- Have an associate or bachelor's degree or the equivalent in relevant experience
- Familiarity with the San Diego River ecology and geography is a plus

Other Qualifications and Requirements:

- Event planning or experience serving as a volunteer leader preferred
- Past volunteer leadership training or experience supervising others is a plus
- First aid certification will be required for this employee (can be completed after hire)
- This position may include weekend or evening work

This job description is intended as a guide to the general job responsibilities and is not inclusive of every duty the employee may be expected to perform.

The San Diego River Park Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This is an at-will position.

Deadline: Open until filled.

Start Date: Immediately.

To apply: Send a resume and cover email to sarah@sandiegoriver.org. No phone calls, please. Email questions are welcomed. Please include in your cover email (or separate letter) your interest in the position and working with the organization.