



**December 29, 2022**

Do you have a passion for the environment and justice issues affecting eastern North Carolina? Do you enjoy a dynamic work environment? Do you love collaboration, team support and opportunities for growth? Then join our Team!

**Position:** Water Quality Specialist

**Salary Range:** \$38,000-\$42,000

**Job Type:** Full-Time

**Career Level:** Entry-level

**Location:** New Bern, NC

**Reports to:** Advocacy Program Manager

**Application Deadline:** Open until filled

### **Position Summary**

The Water Quality Specialist (WQS) is the main support person for the Neuse and Pamlico-Tar Riverkeepers. The WQS is responsible for supporting the Riverkeepers with water-quality sampling, field investigations, lab management, and data management/interpretation and ensuring the organization's scientific integrity to further clean-water advocacy campaigns. The position will be based in our New Bern, NC (Lower Neuse River) office and reports to the Advocacy Program Manager.

### **About Sound Rivers**

Sound Rivers has a long tradition of clean-water advocacy, protecting and preserving the health and viability of the Tar-Pamlico and Neuse rivers for 42 years. Sound Rivers is committed to the goal of environmental justice and equity for all people in our watershed. We recognize the benefits and impact of diverse leadership, building of trust in impacted communities, and programs that are inclusive to ensure we serve the needs of all those communities within the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico river basins.

### **Equal Employment Opportunity**

Sound Rivers is committed to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace where we learn and work together to protect the rivers. We strongly encourage applicants from underrepresented backgrounds in the environmental movement to apply.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

#### **Water Quality Sampling and Data Management**

- Conduct water-quality monitoring and other field assessments in both river basins
- Oversee quality control, quality assurance protocols for all field sampling and lab analysis, including Sound Rivers Swim Guide program
- Oversee data collection and management; oversee data interpretation



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New Bern (252) 637-7972 – Raleigh (919) 856-1180 – Washington (252) 946-7211

- Provide timely data analysis and reports of monitoring activities

#### Lab Management

- Maintain water monitoring equipment and lab/field supplies
- Oversee quality assurance/quality control of all lab and field equipment

#### Riverkeeper Support

- Execute field investigations of suspected pollution spills or environmental law violations in cooperation with the Riverkeepers
- Stay abreast of current EPA, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and research partner water-quality data collection efforts and provide summary of data results to the Riverkeepers
- Other support tasks and special projects as assigned by the Advocacy Program Manager

### **Job Requirements**

#### **Experience & Qualifications**

- A bachelor's degree in a science discipline or equivalent experience working in the environmental or related field
- Valid driver's license with clean driving record and the ability to operate a passenger vehicle with a trailer and small motorized and non-motorized watercraft
- Have reliable transportation
- Flexibility in work day, including evenings and weekends, as needed
- Alternative to the above, an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities

#### **Technical skills**

- Familiarity with water-quality sampling equipment, monitoring protocols, data collection, and sample analysis
- General working knowledge of boating operations, seamanship, and water safety
- Proficiency in using Microsoft Office and Google Workspace

#### **Workplace skills and qualities**

- Passion for environmental and justice issues affecting eastern North Carolina
- Enjoyment of a busy and dynamic work environment
- Superior accuracy and attention to detail
- Superior data management, recordkeeping, and organizational skills
- Strong verbal communication skills
- Ability to self-motivate, work independently and as part a team
- Ability to work on multiple projects concurrently and meet tight deadlines
- Strong time management skills and ability to keep track of many tasks that require follow-up
- Curiosity and a sense of humor

### **Compensation, Benefits, and Values**

This is a full-time, exempt position reporting to the Advocacy Program Manager. The hiring range is \$38,000- \$42,000 depending upon experience and abilities. Sound Rivers offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes paid vacation, personal, holiday, and sick time; 100% covered health, vision, and dental insurance; and a tax-deferred retirement plan with employer match. Sound Rivers places the highest value on its employees and employee retention and is committed to continuously building on our collaborative and flexible workplace environment. We value a healthy work-life balance and offer opportunities for staff development.

### **Working conditions**

Normally scheduled work week is 9AM to 5PM, Monday through Friday, but some evening and weekend hours are required. This position requires a person that is able to work long hours in adverse weather and environmental conditions. This position will require significant travel within our service area; work vehicles will be provided for most of the travel. Mileage reimbursement is provided for personal vehicle use.

### **Physical Demands**

The person in this position is often required to load and carry materials and equipment for research, programs, events, and investigations, some weighing at least 50 pounds. Some of the programs include physical activity such as walking, hiking or paddling.

### **Applications**

If you are interested in this position and meet a majority of the essential qualifications, please send a cover letter and resumé in PDF format to [jobs@soundrivers.org](mailto:jobs@soundrivers.org), subject line "YOUR LAST NAME, Water Quality Specialist." If your materials indicate a potential match for our requirements, we will contact you. References will be requested from candidates chosen for interviews. Please, no phone calls or emails to the office regarding this opening. Position open until filled; interviews will be scheduled on a rolling basis. The anticipated start date is February 2023.