



Invasive Species Technicians

Positions available: 2

Organization: The Couchiching Conservancy

Location: Orillia, Ontario, Canada

Reports to: Conserved Lands Manager

Duration: 8 weeks Start Date: June 1, 2025 Wage: \$19 / hr (30 hours / week)

Low cost accommodation: Available if required

Deadline to Apply: 11 April 2025

The Couchiching Conservancy is a non-profit charitable land trust that has helped to protect 15,135 acres of environmentally significant land in the Couchiching region. The Conservancy's mandate is to protect the special natural features of the region for present and future generations, and we achieve this goal through land acquisition and stewardship projects on both private and public land. We are currently responsible for the stewardship and management of 58 nature reserves and conservation easements under our protection. We are committed to diversity, inclusion, and reconciliation.

Position Overview:

The Couchiching Conservancy is seeking two enthusiastic individuals to join our team as Invasive Species Technicians for the summer. This role offers the opportunity for training in Best Practices for mapping, monitoring and controlling invasive plants as designated by the Ontario Invasive Plant Council and Invasive Species Centre. Technicians will participate in events that involve volunteers as well as targeted stewardship with our Reserve Steward, and independent work on nature reserves and conservation easements across the Couchiching Conservancy region. You will also be trained to use conservation software for mapping and data handling, and receive guidance in pursuing careers in conservation. Works hours will be weekdays and activities will be coordinated by the Conserved Lands Manager. These positions are not part of the Canada Summer Jobs program. Safety equipment and training are provided.

Key Responsibilities:

Invasive Species Control:

- Manual removal of invasive plants using a variety of methods and tools
- Assistance of licensed Applicator with herbicide spraying
- Participation in setting up and monitoring experimental plots for resistant patches of invasive plants
- Setup of equipment for partners and contractors
- Deployment of biological control species

Invasive Species Mapping:

- Assistance with drone mapping and identification of invasive plants
- Assistance with on-the-ground mapping of invasive and sensitive native plant patches
- Diligent mapping data collection on every visit to nature reserves and easements

Invasive Species Monitoring & Data Handling:

- Assessment of patch size and plant density before and after control measures

The Couchiching Conservancy



- Assessment of success and/or needs for future work
- Qualitative & quantitative data collection and photo documentation of experimental control plots and other plant patches
- Incidental observations of invasive and other species with photo documentation
- Data input into Landscape Conservation Software
- Coordination with Reserve Steward, Conservation Analyst, and Conservation Biologist as needed to achieve goals

Volunteer Interactions:

- Participation and communication with trained Invasive Species Team and Land Steward Volunteers for mapping, monitoring, and control measures

Qualifications:

- Passion for nature and environmental conservation.
- Ability to identify terrestrial invasive plants in our region.
- Familiarity with invasive species control methods.
- Strong interpersonal communication skills.
- Comfortable speaking with diverse groups of people.
- Previous experience in conservation, biological sciences, or other land stewardship.
- Well-organized with an attention to details.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Decision-making and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Valid driver's license and access to reliable transportation.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with local conservation efforts, responsible land stewardship, and/or The Couchiching Conservancy's mission.
- Knowledge of the Not-for-Profit sector and charitable organizations is an asset.
- Indigenous applicants will be considered strongly.

Successful applicants must:

- Have a valid Social Insurance Number and be legally entitled to work in Canada.

How to Apply: Submit a resume and cover letter to meghan@couchconservancy.ca with the email subject line, Application: Invasive Species Technician. Join us in connecting with the community and inspiring action for protecting nature! The deadline to apply is 11 April 2025.