

## **Position Opening: Director of Clean Water Programs**

A coalition of farm and commodity groups in Minnesota has established a position to increase understanding and involvement of agricultural producers in water quality and quantity issues. This is a full time position that does require some instate travel.

**Job Location:** Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation state office building, Eagan, MN  
Successful applicant may work from home.

**Starting Date:** March 1, 2008

**Benefits:** Salary based on qualifications and experience, fleet car, 401K and comprehensive benefits package

**Application Procedures:** Resumes with cover letters accepted through February 4, 2008. Please include qualifications, background, education, references and salary requirements. Resumes can be mailed, faxed or emailed. Interviews will be scheduled in early February.

**Qualifications:** Applicant should be experienced in water quality and quantity issues with a thorough understanding of related issues and possess the ability to prepare and present informative verbal and written presentations to groups and individuals. Applicant should possess an understanding of rural Minnesota social and regulatory environment as they relate to clean water issues.

### **Resumes should be sent to:**

Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation  
Attn: Bob Shepard  
PO Box 64370  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0370

Email: [bshepard@fbmn.org](mailto:bshepard@fbmn.org)

Fax: 651-905-2109, Attn: Bob Shepard

**Questions:** Contact Bob Shepard, Minnesota Farm Bureau, office 651-905-2109, cell phone 612-756-2533; Warren Formo, Minnesota Corn Growers, office 952/233-0333; or Sam Ziegler, Minnesota Soybeans, office 507-388-1635.

## **JOB DESCRIPTION - Director of Clean Water Programs Minnesota Coalition**

**FUNCTION:** Oversee and implement a strategic educational, communications and public relations program to inform and engage agricultural producers in Minnesota in and about water quality issues. This position will provide assistance to agricultural producers and agricultural groups in Minnesota to address environmental regulations regarding water and soil issues including Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plans, and building relationships with neighbors, the local community and permitting agencies regarding water quality and quantity issues.

**AUTHORITY:** Identify resources needed by the Coalition and its participating member organizations for successfully influencing regulations impacting water quality issues in rural Minnesota and increasing agriculture stakeholder involvement in water quality and quantity issues.

**REPORTABILITY:** Prepare a weekly report to the Executive Committee of the Coalition. Work closely with the chair of Coalition governing group. Prepare special reports as required by the Coalition.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** The Director of Clean Water Programs shall be accountable to the governing body of the Coalition.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- Develop materials and presentations to inform farmers and ranchers about TMDLs and how to be effective participants in the process.
- Ensure that multiple informed farmers participate in every TMDL stakeholder group where agriculture is identified as being a contributor of the impairment(s).
- Build upon and expand the collaborative efforts of the “Ag TMDL Working Group”.
- Increase the number of comments submitted by farmers and agricultural organizations, while striving to maintain consistent messages.
- Work with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to address the concerns of agricultural producers regarding MPCA procedures.
- Interact with local, state, and federal agencies responsible for TMDL studies and implementation plans.
- Assist agriculture and commodity groups in submitting written comments to TMDL draft reports and implementation plans when appropriate.
- Development of a plan of action the Coalition can implement to assist producers in dealing with water quality and quantity issues.

- Conduct training with member organizations for the successful local implementation of programs that increase producer understanding of water quality and quantity issues.
- Be knowledgeable of water quality regulations and procedures impacting agriculture locally and be able to articulate this information to member organizations.
- Develop and maintain ongoing relationships with all agricultural organizations on issues impacting rural water quality and quantity issues.
- Assist the Coalition in the development of relationships with other agricultural organizations and federal, state and local agencies necessary for the successful implementation of programs that will promote the understanding and involvement of producers on a local level.
- Assist the Coalition in the development of relationships with local, state and federal units of government necessary for the successful implementation of a plan of action to successfully address Water Quality and quantity issues.
- Work with similar organizations in neighboring states to learn about and share information about successful strategies, programs and regulations that address water quality and quantity issues.

**Qualifications:**

- Experience with and knowledge of water quality and quantity and associated regulatory issues in Minnesota.
- Ability to identify potential partners in development of an educational program to promote understanding of water quality issues in Minnesota.
- An understanding of and passion for water quality and quantity issues in Minnesota.
- Ability to organize and complete duties independently in order to meet goals without direct supervision.
- Ability to identify issues, opportunities, and resources and communicate them to local producers and groups.
- Ability to work cooperatively and collaboratively with a team of individuals, including the ability to work with volunteers.
- Ability to travel extensively in rural areas with flexible hours to maintain producer and industry contacts.
- Ability to communicate self and ideas, orally or in writing, using knowledge and the perspective of the audience so that the ideas are understandable and credible.
- Ability to utilize personal computer and related software for word processing, data base management and time allocation systems.
- Awareness of strategies to work with news media in order to understand communication through that venue.