

Land Stewardship Project Position Announcement – June 2018

LSP's *Bridge to Soil Health* initiative is adding to its staff team



The Land Stewardship Project (LSP) seeks a full-time staff member to join our *Bridge to Soil Health* organizing team, based in southeast Minnesota (Lewiston). This initiative works directly with, and expands, a strong network of mid-sized crop and livestock farmers in the region that wish to make on-farm changes that build soil health and organic matter levels, improve yields, sequester carbon, and enhance water quality and family farm profitability. The initiative also engages farmers in public policy discussion and prioritizing of much-needed public policy reforms that support soil health, improved conservation, and more farmers on the land. The *Bridge to Soil Health* team consists of four core members plus administrative and communication support.

Qualifications:

Knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, the growing range of soil-building methods being demonstrated by farmers in the upper Midwest, including cover crops, no-till, and intensive grazing. Solid first-hand background and experience in commercial scale crop and livestock production, and ability to relate well to farmers. Livestock farming background and direct experience with intensive, rotational grazing necessary. Group workshop facilitation skills. Commitment to the importance of farmer-to-farmer learning. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Proficiency with electronic communication tools, including e-mail, social media, digital photography and video. Commitment to the vision, goals and community organizing methods of LSP <http://landstewardshipproject.org/about/mission>. Outgoing personality, telephone skills, community organizing and/or sales experience, a track record of working well in a team setting, and a good sense of humor are all needed. Bachelor's degree in soils, agronomy, animal science or agriculture education. Reliable vehicle and willingness to travel regionally.

Primary Responsibilities: Organize soil-building workshops, soil health hubs, and grazing circles. Conduct 1-to-1 farm visits. Serve as lead staff on grazing methods that build soil health and improve profitability. Develop thorough scientific understanding of soil-building methods, their on-farm financial potential, their on-farm applicability, and a knowledge of the research in the field. Help expand LSP's soil builders' network of farmers wanting more information, and work with farmers interested in making changes on their own farms. Create video shorts and develop fact sheets of soil health farming methods. Recruit additional LSP farmer-members.

Hours, location, and compensation: This is a full-time salaried position, based in LSP's southeast Minnesota office in Lewiston. Compensation is mid 30's to mid 40's depending on experience and qualifications. Comprehensive and generous benefits package including excellent health/dental insurance. The starting date for this position is September 4, 2018.

The Land Stewardship Project: LSP is a grassroots membership organization, based in Minnesota, with a mission of fostering an ethic of stewardship for farmland, promoting sustainable agriculture, and developing healthy communities. LSP uses a community organizing, education-to-action approach with the goal of achieving major change in our agriculture and food system towards stewardship, economic and racial justice & community vitality. We have 4000 member-households.

To apply: please submit cover letter & resume by July 20 to Doug Nopar, *Bridge to Soil Health* program director dnopar@landstewardshipproject.org.