River Advocacy Fellow
with the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, a nonprofit environmental organization

Date posted: January 2024

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN), based in Bristol, PA, is committed to creating an inclusive community of staff and volunteers that is representative of the Watershed we serve. In doing so, we are better able to champion the rights of our communities to a Delaware River and tributary streams that are free-flowing, clean, healthy, and abundant with a diversity of life. We know through experience that different ideas, perspectives, and backgrounds create a stronger voice for the River.

DRN is seeking to hire a River Advocacy Fellow to join DRN’s advocacy team for a term of one year.

Description
DRN seeks a River Advocacy Fellow to support the advocacy and grassroots organizing work led by the Delaware Riverkeeper. The River Advocacy Fellow will gain hands-on experience in the development of a wide variety of environmental advocacy and organizing strategies while working to protect the Delaware River watershed and ecosystems. The River Advocacy Fellow will work on issues such as pipeline construction, inappropriate development projects, buffers protection, flood damage reduction response, catastrophic spill response, stormwater runoff, wetlands degradation, contaminated sites remediation, dredging, and species take. As needed, the River Advocacy Fellow will also provide support for the advocacy and grassroots organizing work led by other DRN advocacy and community organizing staff.

Reports to
the Delaware Riverkeeper

Responsibilities
• Help coordinate and plan, and attend community and/or coalition meetings, issue-based events, webinars and educational forums, and direct action
• Participate in and support the Delaware Riverkeeper in campaign development and strategic planning
• As directed, assist the Delaware Riverkeeper with the implementation of DRN’s advocacy campaign strategies
• Assist with the coordination of several grassroots advocacy work groups
• Assist with outreach to and support of community groups and partner organizations, including by attending calls/meetings/work session
• Analyze, interpret, and synthesize voluminous publications covering a variety of topics including: water quality threats; habitat and ecosystem threats; public health threats; climate issues; illegal discharges; invasive species; and endangered and at-risk species to help inform the position and work of the DRN on advocacy issues and litigation as needed
• Help craft fact sheets, advocacy letters, informational materials as assigned

Other Responsibilities
• Participate in DRN-sponsored events as needed
• Participate in grant-writing and reporting where relevant to advocacy activities
• Other duties as assigned

Valid driver’s license and good driving record is required. Ability to travel around the Watershed is required. Some evening and weekend work required.

Required Qualifications
• Minimum Bachelor’s degree or five (5) years of experience in relevant field
• Work experience in the nonprofit sector, preferably in the environmental field
• Knowledge of environmental policy, with a focus on water, energy, and climate
• Understanding of how environmental issues intersect with racism and economic and social inequality
• Excellent communication, writing, and presentation skills
• Strong research and analytical skills
• Excellent computer skills, including a high degree of proficiency in a variety of online systems and software and/or ability to learn them (current systems/software used include: Google suite and Office 365 suite)
• Ability to multi-task in a high performing environment, expected
• Detail-oriented, organized, efficient, and flexible
• Team player capable of working independently with minimal oversight.
• Reliable transportation

Salary
Base starts at $40,000 but is negotiable

Benefits
• Insurance: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, Short & Long Term Disability
• 401(k) retirement plan with employer match after one year of employment
• Flexible Spending Accounts: Medical, Dependent Care, Transit & Parking Expenses
• Generous time-off policies
• Relaxed work atmosphere and dress code

Location
The position is based in DRN’s main office in Bristol, Bucks County, PA. Employees may be eligible to work remotely if their job duties can be met through basic hardware and software, they’ve proven to be trustworthy, disciplined, and self-motivated, and have been given permission by DRN. However, travel to the Bristol office will be required as needed.

Application Procedure:
Submit cover letter, resume, names and contact information for three references, and at least one writing sample.

Please send email with the required attachments to the attention of Hiring Manager at keeper@delawareriverkeeper.org.

Email subject line should read, “River Advocacy Fellow.” No telephone calls.

Timeline
Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Essential Functions of Position and Working Conditions:
• Physical ability to perform the essential functions of the job, including some physical work, with or without reasonable accommodations.
• Constantly required to remain in a stationary position and operate standard office equipment, such as a computer, phones, photocopiers, printers, and fax machines.
• Ability to communicate information and ideas so others will understand. Must be able to exchange accurate information in these situations.
• Occasionally required to move files, open filing cabinets and position self as necessary.
• Work will be primarily indoors, in an office setting.

The employee must be able to perform the essential functions of the position satisfactorily and, if requested, reasonable accommodations will be made to enable employees with disabilities to perform the essential functions of their job, absent undue hardship. DRN retains the right to change or assign other duties to this position.

*DRN is an equal opportunity employer.*