



McKinney Climate Fellows and Resilience Cohort Programs City of Fishers

2022 Urban Green Infrastructure Fellow – Job Description

The City of Fishers is a suburb of Indianapolis, Indiana, and was named #1 Place to Live in the US by Money Magazine in 2017. Under the leadership of Mayor Scott Fadness, Fishers is known as smart, vibrant, and entrepreneurial and has been recognized as a destination for technology and life science industry growth. With a population of 95,310 (2019), Fishers is one of the fastest-growing communities in Indiana and has received national accolades for entrepreneurship, livability, and safety.

Summary

The City of Fishers seeks a highly motivated student to assist with the development of urban green infrastructure policies in the summer of 2022, including an equity-focused tree planting plan. Completing a tree planting plan will prepare Fishers with an equitable strategy for sequestering carbon and reducing pollution, mitigating urban heat island, and reducing stormwater impacts.

The Fellow will work with the Planning and Zoning Department, which is a participant in the Indiana University Environmental Resilience Institute's [Resilience Cohort](#). The successful candidate will receive on-the-job training from tree canopy consultants on how to analyze and map social vulnerabilities onto the results of a tree canopy assessment, informing the development of an equity-focused tree planting plan. The intern will also develop technical and project management skills beneficial to a career in local government, climate science, policy, environmental management, and related fields.

Duties will include:

- Develop equity, stormwater, and/or heat management map layers and corresponding analyses to prioritize areas for tree planting
- Input local tree data into the Indiana Green City Mapper
- Promote and coordinate public and other stakeholder engagement in developing tree planting plan
- Draft a tree planting plan that prioritizes equity and helps manage climate change impacts related to extreme heat and precipitation events
- Draft a Community and Urban Forestry grant to apply for competitive funding to conduct a street tree inventory or a complete a tree-planting project

- Draft a tree protection ordinance
- Develop other policy and program recommendations based on inventory analysis
- Assist with related sustainability projects supporting the City’s Climate Action Plan depending on time and interest
- Participate in regular Resilience Cohort webinars and conference calls
- Attend the Climate Fellows virtual bootcamp training, hosted by the Environmental Resilience Institute, May 16-20, 2022
- Attend weekly (virtual) “Lunch and Learn” sessions
- Submit weekly reports on Canvas over the course of the fellowship

Qualifications

- Prior quantitative coursework or research experience, preferably in a discipline applied to sustainability such as environmental science, environmental management, engineering, chemistry, environmental economics, or a related field
- Experience with GIS and mapping programs
- Previous coursework in natural resource management, community forestry, and/or silviculture
- Experience summarizing research in reports and presentations
- Ability to follow detailed and technical instructions
- Effective written communication, especially for a public audience
- Exemplary verbal communication, including speaking publicly
- Self-motivated, proactive, and flexible with careful attention to detail
- Ability to prioritize and manage multiple ongoing tasks
- Experience coordinating events
- Equity mindset and an understanding of diversity, equity, an inclusion in climate work
- Enthusiastic about urban green infrastructure

Preferred Skills

- Experience in evaluating the environmental impact of products, activities, and systems
- Experience creating professional reports

Feedback and evaluation

The Fellow will be given regular feedback from staff on progress and performance. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how this organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

Compensation

Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute. The Fellow will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning on or about June 1st and ending on August 10th.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The McKinney Climate Fellows and Resilience Cohort Programs support the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Application Process

To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute's website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Matthew Flaherty, Implementation Manager, at flahertm@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Monday, February 14, 2022.

