Sycamore Land Trust
Preserving land, restoring habitat, and connecting people to nature in southern Indiana since 1990.
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McKinney Climate Fellows Program
2023 McKinney Climate Fellow - Sycamore Land Trust

Who We Are
Sycamore Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been conserving and restoring land and connecting people to nature in southern Indiana since 1990. With a small but mighty staff and dedicated volunteers, we protect over 10,000 acres and own and manage more than 50 separate nature preserves. Sycamore preserves, restores, and maintains the ecological health of forests, wetlands, and other natural areas that are vital to the sustainability of our area and help mitigate climate change.

Position Summary
The McKinney Climate Fellow will work with Sycamore’s Land Stewardship Director, other staff, and volunteers on habitat restoration, plant and wildlife inventories, public trail maintenance, boundary monitoring, and other critical management projects on our nature preserves. In addition, the Fellow will:
- Attend weekly Sycamore staff meetings.
- Attend a weeklong training in May 2023.
- Attend weekly (virtual) “Lunch and Learns”, Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm.
- Submit weekly Canvas reports over the course of the fellowship.

Qualifications
A candidate currently studying for a degree in a relevant field such as environmental science, biology, or geology is preferred. Much of the work will be outdoors with exposure to insects, poison ivy, and varying weather. The ability to walk over rough terrain and carry a 35-pound backpack is required. Invasive plant removal projects can involve use of herbicides, and herbicide application may be required. Use of hand tools such as clippers, rakes, and shovels is also required.

Other qualifications include:
- Competence with Microsoft Office.
- Must be self-directed and able to complete tasks without supervision.
- Familiarity with the natural communities and native species of southern Indiana is preferred.
- Experience with ArcGIS or QGIS is preferred.
**Compensation**
Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute. The Fellow will work full time for 12 weeks, beginning May 22, 2023 and ending August 11, 2023.

**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.

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**
The Indiana Climate Fellows Program supports 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 Instructions**
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 the Environmental Resilience Institute at eri@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Friday, January 13, 2023.