



Full Time Community Advocate Position Available Immediately

The Mountain Watershed Association is concerned with the conservation, restoration and protection of the Indian Creek and greater Youghiogheny River watersheds in southwestern Pennsylvania. Our major purposes include restoration of Indian Creek from mine drainage resulting from over 125 years of coal mining in the watershed, developing community awareness, promoting cooperative community efforts for remediation and encouraging sound environmental practices. We are an advocacy organization, and our advocacy work centers on local issues and national issues having a local impact. MWA is home of the Youghiogheny Riverkeeper, a position that has expanded our vision into the larger Youghiogheny River watershed.

Our Melcroft, PA office is located in the heart of Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands region and is only a short drive from Ohiopyle State Park, Seven Springs Mountain Resort, and the Great Allegheny Passage among many other attractions.

We are currently accepting resumes for a full-time Community Advocate. Applicants must possess a Juris Doctorate Degree with a certificate or experience in environmental law, be enthusiastic and motivated self-starters, and be outgoing and able to work with diverse groups of people. Ability to communicate well verbally and in writing is critical. The position will work with our Marcellus Citizen Stewardship Project (MCSP), which seeks to develop community leadership through outreach, assessment, and monitoring activities and by providing assistance to citizens in areas where shale gas development is occurring.

Responsibilities:

- Provide policy analysis on items including but not limited to the DEP water testing policy, the statewide moratorium push, and Act 13; relate this analysis to Community Leaders so that they may more effectively target their resources through appropriate public participation
- Respond to citizen concerns by providing legal resources, answering technical questions regarding leasing documentation, water testing procedures, land use, and the permitting process. Participate in the Pennsylvania Community Rights Network by working with local communities and Community Leaders to establish rights-based ordinances throughout the state
- Conduct permit reviews in order to identify concerns and threats and in order to facilitate the location of our Monitoring Marcellus sites; provide Community Leaders with assistance in reviewing permits in their areas.
- Provide training in monitoring shale gas permits at Monitoring Marcellus & FracTracker trainings.
- Provide water quality interpretation including that found in permit files, citizen water tests and agency water quality monitoring
- Organize and attend meetings with legislators, municipal officials, and other elected officials on behalf of MWA and in conjunction with Community Leaders
- Draft and circulate sample ordinances in order to propose better protections for communities and the environment
- Prepare public comments for hearings, permit reviews, and other public participation opportunities, and assist Community Leaders in doing the same
- File complaints with agencies or other entities as appropriate, assisting community leaders when requested.

- Act as a resource by providing information and assistance regarding Marcellus shale drilling impacts.
- Represent MWA at community meetings, conferences and other events as required.

Requirements:

- Juris Doctorate Degree with a certificate or experience in environmental law. PA Bar admission preferred, but not required. Excellent academic record and references needed.
- Ability to work daily from our Melcroft, PA office.
- Enthusiastic, self-motivated, and independent worker
- Work well under pressure and take deadlines seriously
- Strong communication skills (writing sample required)
- Proven ability to work effectively and creatively with diverse people and groups
- Willingness to work a flexible schedule including frequent evenings and weekends
- Reliable transportation and ability and willingness to travel when required
- Computer proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint and a willingness to develop additional skills as needed

Compensation: Compensation is commensurate with experience and other nonprofit organizations of similar size, scope and mission.

Position available immediately.

Please submit a cover letter, resume with three references and a writing sample to the Mountain Watershed Association. Resumes will be accepted until the position has been filled.

Electronic submissions are preferred. Email to mwa@mtwatershed.com. Please type "Community Advocate Resume" in the subject line of your email.

Mountain Watershed Association
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