

Ecology Assistant

Job Dates: full-time position, start date mid-May

Announcement: Posted April 16, 2026

Job Description:

The ecology assistant position supports, and is supervised by, the land bank ecologist and the land bank livestock manager by performing environmental surveys and participating in the restoration grazing program on some 4000 acres of Martha's Vineyard conservation land. In addition, the assistant supervises the field activities of a number of seasonal ecology interns and is responsible for synthesizing, analyzing and mapping data — on both site and community levels — gathered by them.

Skills needed:

We are looking for the applicant that is most suited for the position and will consider qualifications supplemental to those described in the appended job description. Successful applicants must possess a B.S. or greater in wildlife biology/management, botany, ecology, zoology, environmental science, or related field. Additionally, the applicant must have a strong foundation in basic field skills related to avian and vegetation surveys. Prior coursework or equivalent field experience in identifying birds by sight and sound, using a dichotomous key to identify plants, entomology, scientific writing, ArcPro and RStudio is desirable. Additional skills in small livestock husbandry, use of electro-netting and restoration grazing techniques are desirable, but not required. Successful applicants must demonstrate effective communication and leadership skills using sound judgment in field-based work; ability to work both independently and as part of a team in physically demanding settings and field conditions; possess strong written and verbal communication skills; and **have own vehicle transportation**. We are looking for a candidate that enjoys the out-of-doors, is organized, reliable, has a strong work ethic and a positive attitude.

Hours and Remuneration:

The position is based on a (40) hour workweek with an hour paid lunch. Remuneration will be set according to experience and will range from \$63,880-\$87,525 annually. Health insurance benefits are provided with the position. Furnished housing is available with minimal caretaking responsibilities that are required of all tenants in exchange for housing.

To Apply:

Your completed application packet should include: 1) land bank ecology assistant employment application; 2) current resume including the names and contacts of three references; and 3) a cover letter. Your references will be contacted only if you are included in the final round of interviews.

Application for employment with the land bank is located on the land bank website at www.mvlandbank.com under employment opportunities. Interviews will be conducted in person or by telephone. Please contact Julie Russell, julie.russell@vineyardlandbank.com or (508) 294-6653 if you have questions or require additional information concerning this announcement.

Application Deadline: May 8, 2026

Ecology assistant

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responsibilities

1. Environmental surveys

For \pm 32 hours per week, the ecology assistant:

- supervises and leads, while working with, seasonal ecology interns in:
 - conducting various lepidoptera, bat, amphibian and breeding bird surveys; and
 - conducting various inventories of grassland, shrubland and woodland vegetation
- assists the ecologist in drafting management plans and preparing permit applications
- monitors and removes invasive and exotic plant species
- collects GPS data and imports them into ArcMap
- collects water quality samples and inputs their data

2. Livestock management

For \pm 8 hours per week, the ecology assistant:

- collects and analyzes vegetation monitoring data associated with the land bank's landscape grazing program
- assists, from time to time, with the set-up of energized livestock fencing for livestock rotation and aids in general herd maintenance

3. Community Liaison

- leads natural history walks on the first Sunday of the month in the off-season

working conditions

The ecology assistant:

- possesses a baccalaureate degree
- works in a professional manner, pays close attention to detail, follows direction well and abides by protocols relating to the handling of confidential information
- follows a schedule devised by the ecologist and livestock manager, with rotations likely if not probable
- has an hour paid lunch break each day
- keep logs of hours worked and submits these logs on a weekly basis to the ecologist for verification and the land bank commission office for payment

- is reimbursed by the land bank, at the current federal gasoline mileage reimbursement rate, when using a personal vehicle during the work day for land bank business

remuneration

grade 4

range as of 2026-07-01: \$63,880 - \$87,525

This description generally portrays the work expected of the ecology assistant. The assistant may, from time to time, be required by the ecologist or livestock manager to perform tasks at a higher skill level or at a lower skill level than that described herein. Although the land bank makes every effort to accommodate individual preferences, agency needs may at times make the following conditions mandatory: off-hours response to emergency situations or quandaries, shift work, a rotating work schedule, or a work schedule other than Monday through Friday.

approved by vote of the land bank commission: February 9, 2026