



Position Title: Conservation Associate

Department: Conservation and Natural Resources

Reports directly to: Conservation Horticulture Manager

Organization Description

Naples Botanical Garden is a 170-acre world-class paradise, featuring the flora and cultures of the tropics and sub-tropics including Brazil, the Caribbean, Southeast Asia, and Florida. The Garden's mission is to connect people and plants through display, education, conservation, and applied science. The Garden has beautifully restored native habitats, cultivated gardens, walking trails, and public programming that offer education and enjoyment for people of all ages. Naples Botanical Garden is a 501(c)3

Position Summary:

This position will be responsible for supporting efforts to safeguard and propagate rare and endangered plant species and will collaborate on all aspects of the Garden's seed conservation efforts. The successful candidate will assume a supportive role in the Conservation and Natural Resources Department to further the Garden's mission to connect people and plants through efforts to conserve imperiled plant species and ecosystems. This position requires a broad interdisciplinary science background with a focus on ecology and restoration.

Primary duties and responsibilities:

- Assist a team of Conservation Associates in the field, including seed collection, habitat management, monitoring, and outplanting
- Assist in processing, documenting, seed banking, and propagating plants entering the collection
- Conduce research in the development of propagation and seed storage protocols
- Collaborate with Garden team members and peer institutions in publishing propagation and long-term seed storage protocols
- Conduct daily tasks that maintain plant health and productivity, including watering, weeding, potting, and other horticultural tasks
- Utilize data tracking apps, including Survey123 and ArcGIS (ESRI) for plant records
- Assume a collaborative role in development of the Garden's plant conservation efforts focusing on the native flora of south Florida and the Caribbean

Skill Requirements:

- Strong interest in plant conservation and natural resource management
- Ability to function effectively as a member of a team as well as work independently to see projects through to completion
- Ability to identify common native plants in a variety of south Florida habitats with a strong interest to learn more
- Correctly identify FLEPPC Category I & II invasive plant species of concern in southwest Florida or ability to learn
- Aptitude for science
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Able to work indoors and outdoors
- Stand and work outdoors for long periods of time. Walk and inspect property in difficult terrain. Work in extreme temperatures. Lift and carry objects up to 50 pounds
- Knowledge of how to operate power tools, machinery, golf carts, and ATVs/UTVs
- Patient and able to persevere
- Ability to travel local and internationally
- **A pre-employment background check required:**

Naples Botanical Garden is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Garden has a long-standing policy of employment and advancement based solely upon qualifications to perform the essential elements of a position without regard to age, creed, gender, national origin or ancestry, race, color, religion, veteran status, pregnancy, marital status, HIV status, genetic information, sexual orientation, handicap or mental or physical disability, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin or disability.

To Apply: Please submit a resume and contact information by email to employment@naplesgarden.org. To find out more about Naples Botanical Garden, please visit our website at www.naplesgarden.org. Naples Botanical Garden is an Equal Opportunity Employer and has a long-standing policy of employment and advancement based solely upon qualifications to perform the essential elements of a position without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin (ancestry), or disability.