

Land Conservation and Trail Advocate (San Antonio to San Marcos)

The Great Springs Project, Inc. seeks an energetic, self-motivated, highly organized and detail-oriented individual who is committed to land conservation, and expanding public recreation lands in Texas. The candidate must be tenacious and dedicated to following projects through to completion. The advocate will work closely with the GSP team, with public agencies and other sister conservation organizations to secure additional conservation lands with conservation easements or outright purchase; connect with private landowners who may be interested in land conservation and/or trail easements; and support the development of trails on existing public and private lands. The advocate will keep detailed records of his or her contacts with landowners, local governments and other agency staff, with allied organizations, and with potential funders. An ability to work with and engage people of all types and to build positive relationships with land conservation and trail partners is crucial.

Skills

- Excellent communication: written and verbal with all types of people
- Well organized with attention to details
- Self-motivated, and capable of following all projects through to completion
- Ability to work independently and also collaborate successfully as part of a team
- Experience with GIS, and a willingness to further develop GIS skills
- Ability to ask questions, identify information gaps, overcome barriers to success
- Resourceful, personable, conscientious
- Working knowledge of Hill Country natural and cultural landscapes
- Familiarity with land conservation tools-of-the-trade, and funding strategies

Responsibilities

- Positively engage landowners, agency staff, nonprofit colleagues, and others in furtherance of GSP mission, vision and goals
- Research landownership of targeted parcels, primarily in Bexar and Comal counties
- Initiate contact with key landowners and where possible, build relationships towards the goal of land protection
- Manage all relevant information, for shared and institutional use
- Insure relevant data is incorporated into the GSP GIS database
- Maintain discretion with sensitive information, especially regarding trails and land deals
- Support all efforts to educate landowners and communities in the ways and benefits of land conservation
- Help develop and sustain strategic partnerships
- Monitor and work to align existing land protection efforts among GSP's partner organizations, both public and private
- Coordinate and collaborate with all GSP team members, consultants and partners
- Support as directed the goals of the newly formed Comal County Conservation Alliance

- Support as directed the development of an overall trail strategy for the corridor: alignment with other existing plans, additional planning and advocacy, trail construction and funding, etc.
- Assist with fundraising for GSP operations and projects
- Hold the big vision while working strategically to realize the vision, bit by bit
- Perform any other duties as directed in furtherance of GSP mission
- Report routinely to the GSP Project Director for Bexar/Comal/Hays counties

Additional Requirements

- Reliable car and willingness to travel extensively
- Comfortable and able to work primarily from home using online communications technologies (Zoom, teleconferencing), with limited access to GSP regional offices

Education/Experience

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in a related field
- Work experience in a related field
- Demonstrated interest and knowledge in two or more of the following areas: land and water conservation, real estate, conservation law, business administration, geographic information systems (GIS), non-profit organizations

Job Particulars:

- Salary commensurate with experience
- 40 hours per week, somewhat flexible schedule
- Health insurance not yet offered
- Three weeks paid vacation per year to start
- 7 paid holidays (New Years Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and the day after, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

Start Date: As soon as possible

San Antonio Office Location: Great Springs Project, Inc., 3050 Eisenhower Rd #605, San Antonio, TX 78209

Qualified applicants should send a resume and cover letter with references by May 20 to:

helen@greatspringsproject.org

210-246-2883

Through partnerships and bold initiative, the Great Springs Project (GSP) is working to create an interconnected landscape of protected natural areas over the Edwards Aquifer between San Antonio and Austin with a network of springs-to-springs trails.