

ECO AmeriCorps

2024-2025



Environmental Outreach Coordinator

Mount Ascutney Regional Commission, PO Box 320, 38 Ascutney Park Road; Ascutney, VT 05030

The general purpose of the Commission shall be to guide, prepare and maintain plans for the development of the region which will, in accordance with present and future needs and resources, best promote the health, safety, order, convenience, prosperity and welfare of the inhabitants of the region. These plans shall encourage and promote, the following: appropriate population density, proper land use for industry, commerce, housing, recreation, forestry and agriculture; adequate facilities of transportation and communication; the proper and economic location of public utilities and services; the conservation of the supply of food, water, energy, and other natural resources; good civic design; promotion of educational and cultural opportunities; and the wise and efficient expenditures of public funds.

Position Supervisor: Tom Kennedy, Director of Community Development

Mr. Kennedy manages two solid waste districts: Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District and the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District, in addition he manages a team that works closely with member towns to maximize their ability to apply, administer and manage state and federal funding in the areas of flood response, flood resiliency, water quality, hazard mitigation, etc.

Tom Kennedy is the former Executive Director of MARC with over 30 years of experience in managing organizations. Mr. Kennedy, is a former Peace Corp Volunteer, and is committed to the principles as espoused through Eco-Americorp program. Mr. Kennedy will meet with the service member on weekly basis to discuss any concerns the service member may have with the project they are working on. In addition, the service member will be assigned to a staff member to provide specific programmatic guidance on the project that the member is working on.

The Role:

The Mount Ascutney Regional Commission is seeking a full-time service member to assist the Commission with two of its environmental programs. The two programs are MARC's water quality and solid waste programs. We understand these two programs are different, but we feel working in these programs will give the service member broad introduction in the environmental field.

MARC's goal is to provide the service member with broad introduction to environmental planning by having the member be associated with both our water quality and solid waste programs. Although programs may seem different, both programs are very important in addressing climate change and community resiliency as our climate changes.

Water resources planning position includes:

- Conducting Road Erosion Inventories (REIs) in accordance with Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) protocols.
- Scoping and managing road drainage improvements along town highways to achieve compliance with the drainage standards prescribed under the MRGP.
- Preparing grant applications and assisting with grant administration related to the design and implementation of clean water projects (i.e., green stormwater infrastructure, dam removal, floodplain restoration, and other similar practices).
- Cooperative with VT DEC in preparing and implementing tactical basin plans.
- Collaborate in the preparation and/or amend municipal bylaws related to floodplain management, river corridor protection, stormwater management, wetland protection, etc.
- Collaborate with member towns to administer floodplain and river corridor bylaws.
- Conducting outreach to municipalities and private landowners to secure support for clean water projects.
- Conducting educational outreach to municipal staff and officials to advance regional and statewide water quality goals.
- Conducting town culvert inventories to assess erosion, structural condition, geomorphic compatibility, and aquatic passage.
- Inventorying and mapping wetlands, vernal pools, upland forests, and other sensitive natural resources;

Recycling and Outreach Coordinator

- Collaborate with partner organizations with surface water quality monitoring as needed.

Recycling and Outreach Coordinator Position includes:

- Collaborate with the Recycling Coordinator with meeting the requirements of the Solid Waste Implementation Plan
- Collaborate with the Outreach Coordinator with educational outreach to schools, businesses, and individuals regarding the requirements of Act 148 (Vermont Universal Recycling Law);
- Collaborate with the Coordinator with expanding social media outreach by improving the District's use of Facebook, website, and other forms of social media.
- Prepare educational and outreach materials to promote recycling, composting, and the reuse of materials.

MARC has tremendous demand for its services in the areas of solid waste and water quality. We are seeing a reduction in our recycling and composting rates which indicates that we need to do a better with community outreach within our Districts in order to address climate change, carbon reduction

and community resiliency . The water quality program is seeing a significant increase in funding and desire by our constituents for services to address climate change issues related to increased incidents of flooding, decline in water quality due to the flooding and inadequacy of municipal infrastructure to accommodate increase in precipitation during rain events.

Essential Functions:

- Ability to partner/collaborate with residents, businesses, and local officials in a professional manner.
- Self-Directed
- Good speaking and written skills
- Ability to connect to small groups
- Computer skills: Microsoft products, ARC view a plus
- Willingness to collaborate in small groups
- Ability to multi-task in a busy environment

Secondary Functions:

Collaborative with staff on reviewing proposed environmental legislation in the 2025 legislative session. Introduce the service member to our brownfield program, introduce the service member to Household Hazardous Waste Program, present a report to MARC's Board of Commissioners.

Desired Qualifications:

Excellent oral and written communication skills; willingness to collaborate in a group setting; ability to multi-task multi-projects, good interpersonal skills, willingness to learn and take direction from others.

DEIJ:

The Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC) respects and values all persons of every race, color, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, national origin, citizenship status, sexuality, gender identity or expression, family model, age, socio- economic status, ability, and all other identities and backgrounds. MARC wants everyone to feel safe, welcome, and empowered in the communities we serve. MARC has continuous training through the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agency (VAPDA), Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT).

Climate Resiliency:

Every aspect of the work at either the Regional Planning Commission or at the Solid Waste District is committed to educating the public on the importance of addressing climate, whether through the development of water quality documents that address hazard mitigation or speaking to schools, garden clubs and businesses about the recycling, composting or minimizing the use of hazardous waste products in your home or business.

Networking:

Yes, MARC has bi-weekly staff meetings, there is also monthly meetings of recycling coordinators for all the coordinators in Vermont. The service member will also be able to avail themselves to conferences that may take place during their tenure as a service member.

Misc:

At this time, we don't foresee a need for technical equipment, however, if the need arises, MARC will provide the necessary equipment. A reliable vehicle is expected. Hybrid service possible, both remotely and in the office.

The MARC staff is composed of employees of all ages. Many of the staff spend time together after work hours hiking, biking, etc. The staff will also help the service member with informing the member of the various social media outlets that list social and cultural activities in the area.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Be a US citizen, a national, or legal permanent resident alien of the U.S.;
- Be at least 18 years of age upon entering the Pre-Service Orientation (there is no upper age limit);
- Be a high school graduate or have a GED certificate or be willing to work towards their GED as part of their service-year successful completion requirement. A member cannot have dropped out of high school to join AmeriCorps. If a member has a documented medical reason/professional opinion why they cannot finish high school, they might be eligible; call in this case;
- Has not been convicted of murder or sexual assault and is willing to undergo a National Service Criminal History Check;
- Must submit to Agency of Human Services checks, i.e. Adult Abuse and Child Abuse Prevention;
- Be committed to the ECO AmeriCorps program, and its ethic of service and personal and professional development of its participants;
- Have the ability and enthusiasm to drive to, attend, and participate in required trainings and events, and be prepared to drive up to 2-3 hours each way

To Apply: [My AmeriCorps - Home Page](#)

Position begins September 17th, 2024 and ends August 15th, 2025

The State of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Positions are open to all applicants without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran's status, religion or creed.



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