



AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY
ENHANCEMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Job Announcement

Winnett ACES (Agricultural Community Enhancement and Sustainability)

Education and Outreach Coordinator

Location: Virtual home office with in-person responsibilities in Winnett, Montana

Application Deadline: July 21, 2021

Anticipated Start Date: TBD*

Starting pay is \$18 - \$20/hr depending on experience

Position Open Until Filled

*There are meetings related to producer education programs on August 16 and 17. Attendance by the selected applicant at these meetings are preferred, but not a requirement, and the start date may be flexible around these dates.



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Job Title: Winnett ACES Education and Outreach Coordinator

Position Background:

In November 2016, a group of ranchers from the Winnett area met to discuss the sustainability of their community and the pressures affecting it now and in the future. What began as an informal discussion about wildlife management has grown into an effort to address all aspects of community sustainability with the ultimate goal of ensuring the survival and success of our Winnett community. ACES has developed committees to work on the many tasks related to community success, including an Education Committee. The Education Committee has the following mission: Winnett ACES will provide educational opportunities for rural community members to increase economic, social, and cultural resiliency and will provide outreach opportunities for the public to engage with rural communities and agricultural producers.

More information about Winnett ACES can be found at winnettaces.org.

Working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the World Wildlife Fund, the Winnett ACES has secured five years of funding for a full-time Education and Outreach Coordinator to work in central Montana.

Job Description:

The Education and Outreach (E&O) Coordinator will work with the Winnett ACES staff, education Committee, ACES members, and ACES Board of Directors to build an education and outreach program for the Winnett ACES. The E&O Coordinator will report to the Board of Directors.

The E&O Coordinator will focus on three main priorities for Winnett ACES: 1). Coordinate and implement educational workshops and other offerings for producers in central Montana, 2). Provide outreach for the public about ranching, 3). Work with landowners to identify natural resource concerns and conservation projects.

Responsibilities:

- Landowner Engagement and Targeted Implementation Plans (TIPs). (20% of time)
 - o Work with agricultural producers in central Montana to identify natural resource concerns and conservation projects.
 - o Work with the NRCS to develop Targeted Implementation Plans based on identified natural resource concerns.
- Educational programming for agricultural producers. (40% of time)
 - o Work with the Winnett ACES Education Committee to identify educational programming for agricultural producers.



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- Participate in the Ranchers Stewardship Alliance Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee to identify educational programming for agricultural producers.
- Coordinate educational workshops (speakers, content, location, registration, etc.).
- Coordinate dissemination of educational material (i.e. transition planning materials shared with community members).
- Connect producers with educational resources.
- Develop a rancher mentorship program.
- Outreach opportunities for engaging the public with producers and grasslands. (40% of time)
 - Work with the Winnett ACES Board of Directors and the Education Committee to identify outreach opportunities for engaging Agency and NGO staff and the general public with agricultural producers and the grasslands.
 - Develop tour programming to expose Agency and NGO staff to agricultural operations in the grasslands.
 - Develop workshops/tours for the general public to interact with and learn more about ranchers/ranching.
 - Develop field school scenarios that will provide opportunities for urban dwellers to experience and learn more about agriculture and grasslands.
 - Create programming for a “connecting with landowners” annual/bi-annual conference.
 - Develop an Education and Outreach Plan for property owned by Winnett ACES.

Necessary Skills and Knowledge:

- Knowledge of rural communities in the west.
- General knowledge of the agriculture industry.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Comfort with public speaking and making presentations.
- Excel, Word, Powerpoint and general computer skills.
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a commitment to and passion for Winnett ACES’ mission.

It is expected that the coordinator will use a personal computer and phone and will work remotely. The coordinator will use his/her own vehicle; however, work-related travel costs will be paid by the ACES at the state mileage and per diem rates.

Term: The position is 40 hours per week. The position is funded for five years. The successful applicant will work with the ACES Operations Coordinator to secure funding to continue the position after five years.

Compensation: \$18-20/hour depending on experience.



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To Apply:

Please combine your cover letter, resume, 3 professional references and answers to the following questions and email your package to: Laura Nowlin, info@winnettaces.org. Applications are due by Wednesday, July 21 at 5:00 pm.

1. In your opinion, what are the greatest assets of rural communities and how can ACES capitalize on those assets?
2. What steps would you recommend for the ACES group as it moves forward with educational programming and projects for producers?
3. What steps would you recommend for the ACES group as it moves forward with outreach efforts for the public?
4. What challenges do you perceive for this job and how would you handle those challenges?
5. What do you feel is the most important thing to consider when coordinating a grass-roots organization that has many different facets, personalities, and focal projects?
6. Please describe any experience that you have had working for a board of directors.

Questions? Call or email Laura Nowlin with specific questions – 406-429-4832 or info@winnettaces.org.