MU Extension’s distinct land-grant mission is to improve lives, communities and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies throughout Missouri. Our dedicated and knowledgeable faculty and staff collaborate with researchers and community leaders to develop and deliver programs that address needs of Missourians including: educational attainment; environmental concerns; community, economic, business and workforce development; global food systems; and health systems. For more information about MU Extension please visit [http://extension.missouri.edu](http://extension.missouri.edu).

This is full-time, 12-month non-tenure position that is eligible for rank and promotion within the MU Extension. Extension non-tenure rank (Assistant Professional, Extension Associate Professional or Extension Professional) may be assigned depending on qualifications and experience demonstrated through a curricula vita and by Extension’s promotion policy. The appointment is an annually renewable contract and reports to the Program Director, 4-H Center for Youth Development.

This position provides leadership to the design, develop, deliver and evaluate environmental stewardship, outdoor education (including shooting sports) and natural resources programming within MU Extension’s 4-H Center for Youth Development by working collaboratively with colleagues, teaching and research faculty, youth, regional Extension faculty, staff and 4-H volunteers. This position will design, develop and lead a program to help youth ages 5 to 19 to learn about the role of environmental stewardship, the outdoors and our natural resources in their lives and explore career possibilities.

This specialist position will also examine 4-H educational materials related to environmental stewardship, outdoor education and natural resources and develop new materials relevant to the Missouri 4-H Youth Development Programs. Using research-based education materials, this position will help adult volunteers understand and apply youth development principles to environment and natural resources related 4-H programs and practices. This position integrates program leadership, scholarship, teaching, program management, public engagement and service into its everyday practice. Working in collaboration with Extension faculty, staff and partners, this position will lead and consult on applied research, teaching and training efforts aimed at enhancing the capacities of adults working with youth.

**ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

1. Utilize environment and natural resources, youth development and education principles to build the Missouri 4-H Environmental Stewardship, Outdoor Education (including shooting sports) and Natural
Resources program with colleagues, teaching and research faculty, youth, community partners and other stakeholders.

2. Collaborate with faculty of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, staff of the Missouri Departments of Conservation and Natural Resources and other agencies, organizations giving leadership to develop, manage and evaluate programs and events related to environmental stewardship, outdoor education and natural resources.

3. Provide educational leadership by assessing needs, planning, designing, implementing and evaluating culturally competent educational programs directed at state needs on issues relating to environment, outdoors and natural resources. Programs include but are not limited to environmental stewardship, conservation, outdoor education and skills, shooting sports, water quality and wildlife habitat.

4. Develop, organize, coordinate and manage comprehensive county, state, and regional learning opportunities incorporating science addressing workforce preparedness for fields in environment, conservation and natural resources. This includes but is not to leadership, coordination, management and staff supervision for selected state and national events, fairs contests and activities.

5. Generate and manage revenue to sustain and grow environmental stewardship, outdoor education (including shooting sports) and natural resource programming.

6. Build and maintain strong ties to leaders in the fields and disciplines that contribute to youth development and work with collegiate departments and faculty who are potential resources for applied work.

7. Other duties as assigned.

Professional expectations

- Remain up-to-date on trends and research-based knowledge to effectively deliver relevant, reliable and responsive programs. Apply this knowledge in scholarly products such as curriculum development, in-service education instruction, articles in professional and popular press, presentations at professional meetings, funded grant proposals, etc.

- Actively participate in professional development opportunities to continuously improve skills and increase research-based knowledge. Demonstrate mastery of core competencies, including subject matter expertise, effective and innovative teaching strategies, and program development processes. Must be able to integrate new and emerging technology, listen effectively, and speak and write effectively. Must demonstrate organizational skills and collaborative leadership abilities.

- Must travel throughout Missouri and the United States, and occasionally internationally. Working evenings and weekends is often required to meet the needs of learners and constituents.

Conduct all activities in accordance with the Civil Rights Acts, Title IX, Rehabilitation, Americans with Disabilities Act and local, state and region affirmative action plans. Other duties and responsibilities will be expected to support the mission and purpose of MU Extension.

LEADERSHIP RECEIVED

Administrative supervision is received from the Program Director of the 4-H Center for Youth Development.
QUALIFICATIONS

An earned master’s degree with significant course work in a discipline or program related to agriculture or natural resources education. Minimum of 24 hours of upper level coursework in one or more of the following areas: child, adolescent and adult human development; education, learning theory and learning strategies; organizational systems and human resource management; community development/partnerships; and volunteerism.

Five or more professional experience in designing, conducting and evaluation education programs for youth and volunteers, an applying knowledge in agricultural sciences to volunteerism, human growth and development, experiential education, community collaborations and state and national issues relative to youth is desired.

Successful candidate will also demonstrate the following:

Effective and innovative teaching strategies that engage others. Must be able to integrate new and emerging technology into teaching strategies.

Effective listening, written and oral communication skills including public speaking and presentation abilities.

Organizational skills, interpersonal skills, problem-solving abilities and collaborative leadership experiences.

Flexibility, resiliency, and the ability to operate with minimal guidance.

Positive outlook, high personal standard of excellence, and passion for the vision, mission and values of MU Extension.

An Equal Opportunity/Access/Affirmative Action/Pro Disabled & Veteran Employer