

Conservation Specialist I

Our mission: We garden to create, share, and apply plant wisdom in our world.

Job Summary

The Conservation Specialist I is responsible for performing activities related to surveying, monitoring, collecting, conserving, growing, and restoring plants and ecosystems of conservation concern to advance San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG)'s science and conservation objectives. This position is also involved in maintaining and enhancing the plants, gardens, and grounds of SDBG and associated project sites.

Essential Requirements

- 1+ years of fieldwork experience-- Required.
- Able to identify a wide range of plants, plant communities, and ecosystems in Southern California.
- College-level (Bachelor's) or higher degree in botany, horticulture, ecology, biology, natural resources management, environmental science, or other related fields -- Preferred.
- Able to work in a variety of outdoor environments, including hiking, bending and squatting on rugged trails (often off-trail) with uneven footing and in variable weather conditions (heat, rain, wind, sun exposure).
- Working outdoors on field days including occasional multi-day overnight camping trips.

Compensation

- **Salary: \$26/ hr.**
- **Full- time/ hourly non-exempt**
- Benefits:
 - 401 (k) matching
 - Dental insurance
 - Employee assistance program
 - Employee discount
 - Flexible spending account
 - Health insurance
 - Life insurance
 - Paid time off
 - Retirement plan
 - Vision insurance

Job Type: Full-time, on-site

Location: Encinitas, CA

Essential Functions

- Assist with the design, planning, and implementation of field surveys, monitoring and plant collecting; habitat restoration and vegetation management; and other science and conservation research projects.

- Assist with horticultural activities including, but not limited to, planting, propagating, transplanting, pruning, fertilizing, watering, weeding, and pest management.
- Assist with SDBG science and conservation nursery activities and maintenance.
- Assist with SDBG laboratory, seedbank, and herbarium activities and maintenance.
- Assist with coordinating volunteer work parties and activities.
- Assist with the implementation of outreach and education classes, workshops, meetings, and events.

Education and Experience

- Knowledge of and ability to conduct field data collection, including familiarity with ArcGIS applications.
- Ability to plant, propagate, transplant, prune, fertilize, water, weed, and apply pest management for plants.
- Ability to prepare propagules for ex situ conservation banking, including drying, processing, and packaging.
- Ability to propagate plants in a laboratory setting (in vitro).
- Ability to prepare and preserve herbarium specimens.
- Possess a general knowledge of plants and their culture.
- Ability to follow detailed protocols related to the collection and management of sensitive data and delicate biological samples.

Work Environment

- Must possess a valid driver's license
- Pass a background check.

Physical Requirements

- Standing/walking for extended periods of time
- Bending, squatting, walking stairs, and hiking on rugged trails (often off-trail) with uneven footing and in variable weather conditions (heat, rain, wind, sun exposure).
- Safely lifting and carrying up to 40 lbs.

Other Duties

- Perform other duties or special projects as assigned

Additional requirements

- Must possess a valid driver's license
- Must pass a background check



JOB POSTING

SDBG Diversity Statement

San Diego Botanic Garden is committed to create, maintain and grow a welcoming and inclusive environment. Just as our natural world relies on plant diversity, we believe that cultivating diversity amongst our staff and volunteers contributes to a flourishing Garden. We are dedicated to ongoing conversations as we celebrate and support the unique attributes of all people.