



# MILWAUKEE WATER COMMONS

**Position: Water City Program Manager**

**Start Date: June 4, 2018**

**Reports to: Co-Executive Directors**

**FTE 1.0**

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Milwaukee Water Commons is a project of the Milwaukee Environmental Consortium and has launched a vision of Milwaukee as a model Water City where we all have a stake in the health of our waters, sharing in their stewardship and their benefits. The Water City Agenda 3.0, launched in 2016, has six initiatives that make up this vision. This position activates one of those initiative areas- Green Infrastructure. In addition, the Water City Program Manager will support an environmental justice approach to improving water infrastructure in Milwaukee. The benefits of clean abundant water should be equitably shared across our community and updating our infrastructure is an opportunity to ensure safe water, climate resilience and good family-sustaining jobs.

Milwaukee Water Commons is partnering with American Rivers to build the Water City Agenda 3.0 and improve water infrastructure in Milwaukee. American Rivers is a national nonprofit dedicated to the protection and restoration of America's Rivers and the conservation of clean water for both people and nature. American Rivers is supporting the Water City Agenda through their national Community Water Project initiative, which is focused on working with local partners in different cities to coordinate stakeholders to find and implement integrated water management (IWM) approaches that achieve improved water quality outcomes for both rivers and the communities that depend on them.

The partnership between the Milwaukee Water Commons and American Rivers is intended to leverage the strengths and networks of both organizations to provide guidance, technical expertise, and tools to empower community stakeholders to integrate and coordinate their multiple water management responsibilities and provide facilitation between different stakeholders to advance the Water City Agenda. Through these efforts, we aim to improve the ecological health of the rivers and streams within the Great Lakes basin and quality of life for local residents.

**Position Purpose:**

This position will have overall strategic and operational responsibility for the Milwaukee Water Commons Green Infrastructure Initiative. This will include program management, relationship development, and strategic planning. The Program manager will apply their knowledge of environmental justice, water infrastructure, MWC core programs and mission, partner organizations,

and programmatic work plans to further the goals of the Water City Agenda 3.0 in Milwaukee, as well as facilitate some stakeholder engagement in Gary, IN around Integrated Water Management, as part of the American Rivers Community Water Project.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

#### **Leadership and Management:**

- Is well versed in MWC mission, vision, principles, patterns, and frameworks.
- Ensures programmatic excellence, evaluation and administration.
- Helps to create a City of Milwaukee-wide culture that embraces IWM through increased public awareness and interest in water management issues, green storm water infrastructure (GSI), drinking water through the Community Water Assembly and other coalitions and partnerships.
- Fosters relationships between the community, Milwaukee Water Works (MWW), and the Milwaukee Municipal Sewerage District (MMSD), with an integrated water management framework.
- Assists historically marginalized communities in their engagement with MMSD, MWW, and City Agencies, working to advance community benefits and shared decision making while ensuring the best water management outcomes.
- Assists American Rivers' staff in building on nascent Green Infrastructure efforts in Gary, IN and incorporate these efforts into a larger IWM strategy.
- Works with Milwaukee Water Commons and American Rivers staff to build and maintain relationships with Milwaukee and Gary City staff, utility staff and engage local community partners and volunteers in both cities.
- Assists with MWC programs and events.
- Acts as a Milwaukee Water Commons spokesperson for the Green Infrastructure initiatives for the media, conferences and other events.
- Leads implementation of Green Infrastructure project-Think Blue/Think Green. Assists with the Branch Out Initiative.
- Assists other MWC programs as necessary.
- Fulfills grant deliverables and reporting obligations.
- Occasional travel is required for this position.

#### **Fundraising and Communications:**

- Develops and maintains initiative budgets as needed.
- Assists with year-end annual fundraising campaign.
- Works with communications staff to advance online and external relations with the goal of maintaining the MWC mission.

#### **Planning and Outreach:**

- Leads planning process for Green Infrastructure Initiative.
- Develops and executes plans to build partnerships with new stakeholders.
- Is responsible for building the database for the GI initiative with MWC staff.

**Qualifications:**

The Water City Program Manager will be thoroughly committed to the Milwaukee Water Commons and will have proven leadership, relationship building and community outreach experience.

Concrete demonstrable experience and other qualifications include:

- Commitment to quality programs and data-driven program evaluation.
- Values diversity and inclusion efforts.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in teams. Willingness to work across projects when necessary.
- Ability to communicate the wide array of issues that affect building Milwaukee as a Water City: our mission, principles, patterns and initiatives.
- Strong facilitation skills.
- Attention to detail.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills; a persuasive and passionate communicator with excellent interpersonal and multidisciplinary project skills.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office programs, such as Word and Excel.
- Experience working with historically disadvantaged communities.
- Demonstrates cultural competence. Bilingual skills a plus.
- Action-oriented, adaptable, and innovative approach to community organizing.
- Ability to work effectively in collaboration with diverse groups of people.
- Demonstrate workplace values including passion, integrity, positivity and accountability.
- Appreciation for the environment, local communities and the nexus between both.

Bachelor's Degree preferred. Significant experience and recognized community leadership may substitute for this requirement.

**Compensation**

\$50,000/year with generous health insurance and paid time off.

Milwaukee Water Commons is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Submit resume, cover letter, and writing sample by 5:00 pm on Friday, April 13th to:

Anne Bohl, Communications & Administrative Manager

[abohl@milwaukeewatercommons.org](mailto:abohl@milwaukeewatercommons.org)