



## **The Organization**

Houston Parks Board "HPB" is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit created in 1976 in response to a request by Houston's major foundations and civic leaders who wanted to contribute to the city's park system through an organization that would represent their needs and desires. Since its inception, HPB has raised and leveraged millions of dollars and touched at least 75% of the Houston's parkland through acquisitions and/or capital improvements.

In 2012, HPB embarked upon the largest city-wide project in its 37-year history, Bayou Greenways 2020. Bayou Greenways 2020 is a \$220 million initiative to complete continuous parks and trails along Houston's major bayous. The project will alter Houston's urban fabric like no other initiative in recent history and is one of the most visionary and significant park/urban design projects in the nation.

In addition to completing the large-scale scope of Bayou Greenways 2020, HPB is also charged with the on-going conservation and maintenance of the majority of the city-wide system of greenways and trails. The activities are guided by a standards committee and manual, agreed to by various political entities, and includes maintenance of the amenities, various landscape types/zones, and certain natural resource restoration activities.

The goals of the Bayou Greenways Conservation and Maintenance section are:

- ensure that the Bayou Greenways are clean, attractive, safe, and usable for visitors at all times and during all seasons
- that the natural environments along the greenways are enhanced and protected

Due to the geographical expanse of the Bayou Greenways and efforts required to maintain them, a flexible multi-faceted approach is needed to achieve the standards of maintenance outlined in the Maintenance Standards Report.

## **The Position**

With guidance from, and under the direction of, the Conservation and Maintenance Director and the Conservation Manager, the Conservation Technician will coordinate the following activities within the Bayou Greenways 2020 Conservation and Maintenance program. This position involves hands-on work in restoring and maintaining natural areas and landscape resources, therefore it requires knowledge of plant/animal ecosystems and landscape techniques.

## **Main Responsibilities**

- Train all seasonal technicians regarding HPB Conservation projects and on-going efforts
- Natural resource management tasks, such as herbicide control of invasive species
- Work collaboratively in the field with volunteers and contractors on conservation projects
- Vegetation inventory/assessment within prairies, meadows, wetlands and wooded areas
- Creation, replanting, and rebuilding, of prairies, wetlands, and wooded areas
- Project coordination with HPB team members, including Greenspace Managers and the HPB Volunteer and Activation Manager
- Regular meetings with Conservation Manager
- Additional duties as required

## **Qualifications**

Education:

- Bachelor's degree in landscape architecture, natural resources, ecology, forestry, resource management, biology, wildlife biology, urban planning with an emphasis on environmental design or related field, or equivalent experience in a related field

Preferred Knowledge and Experience:

- 2 or more years of experience managing natural resource management projects and environmental education programs
- Strong knowledge of plants native to the Houston area



- Experience with technical aspects and best practices of landscape and wildlife management
- Expertise and understanding of landscape systems, ecological systems, green infrastructure and landscape sustainability
- Understanding of long-term implications of construction-related decisions and practices on future maintenance operations

**Skills and Abilities:**

- Plant identification skills are essential for a successful candidate
- Excellent organizational skills with the ability to meet multiple deadlines with attention to detail, define problems, collect data, establish facts, and present viable solutions
- Good communicator, including clear, concise and accessible reports, correspondence, procedural manuals and verbal presentations
- Ability to work effectively with others in order to build mutual respect and solve problems
- Ability to efficiently respond to questions from staff, Board members, program partners, funders and members of the community
- Ability to effectively manage projects and project personnel, both volunteer and contract
- Demonstrated ability to work independently
- Evidence of good judgment and decisiveness
- Ability to work creatively and resourcefully within a determined budget
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite products, working knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), ability to read and interpret landscape architectural plans

**Work Environment:**

- Primarily “in the field” along the greenway system, via company vehicle, with periods of office time for meetings, preparing reports, etc.
- The Conservation Technician will be outside exposed to long periods of sun, high heat and humidity, rain, or cold
- Driving in the Houston area will be required
- Must have valid Driver’s License

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. HPB’s benefits package includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and a 403b retirement plan. To apply for this position, email resume and cover letter to [marissallosa@houstonparksboard.org](mailto:marissallosa@houstonparksboard.org) with “Conservation Technician” in the subject line of your email. The deadline for applications is **February 5, 2021**.

Interviews are by appointment only. No telephone calls, please.