



SCHUYLER COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

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Lorry Johnson
Personnel Officer

Examination Open to the Public
SWCD Sr. District Technician-
Exam #63174

EXAM DATE: March 16, 2019

LAST DATE TO FILE: January 25, 2019

SALARY: To be determined by Special District

EXAM FEE: \$15.00 examination fee payable by cash, money order, or check made payable to the Schuyler County Treasurer. Please write the name and number of the examination on the check.

HOW TO APPLY: Applicants **must** submit an original Civil Service “Application for Employment and/or Examination” to Schuyler County Civil Service office. **Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.**

VACANCY: At the present time, there is one full time opening in the Soil and Water Conservation District. A permanent appointment will be made from the eligible list that results from this examination. The eligible list will also be used to fill any appropriate full-time and/or part-time vacancies as they occur.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT: Candidates must have been **legal residents of Schuyler or a contiguous (Chemung, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins and Yates) county** for at least one month immediately preceding the date of application.

JOB DESCRIPTION: This is technical work involving the responsibility of planning, survey and design of conservation projects. A direct focus on agricultural planning for the NYS AEM Program, and implementation through the NYS AGNPS program are key components of this position. Drainage, erosion, nutrient loading, and flooding issues are all assessed on-site with determinations made to help correct or enhance these troubled areas. Employees of this position are expected to be self-starters that work independently from planning, permitting, to construction oversight and inspection. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Soil and Water Conservation District Manager. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Completes AEM and Agricultural planning activities in Schuyler and Chemung Counties.

Planning, permitting, survey, design and layout of agricultural and non-agricultural practices. With a focus on agricultural best management practice implementation through multiple grant programs including but not limited to the AGNPS program.

Performs Hydro-seeding, critical area conventional seeding and fertilizing as well as mulching with the bale mulcher, along with our no-till seeders and moving and maintaining the district post pounder. Nutrient management planning on farms.

GIS Mapping, layer creation.

GPS field BMP's with conversion and overlay to GIS Maps

Assist with drainage complaints and issues on non-farm residents.

Assist in training of current technician in agricultural planning and implementation

Assist in maintenance and care of the Soil and Water Conservation Center

Perform total station survey's to assist P.E. on grant implementation

Assist with education and outreach as needed

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

(a) Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university with an bachelor's degree in agronomy, agriculture, natural resource conservation, environmental science, environmental education, hydrology or closely related field; **AND**

(b) A minimum of 15 years' experience in Soil and Water Conservation or natural resources field; **AND**

(c) Certified Crop Advisor, and Certified Nutrient Management Planner is required; **AND**

(d) A valid NYS Driver's License required.

EXAM SCOPES: Use of calculators is RECOMMENDED

Subjects of examination: A written test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas:

1. Preparing written material

These questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately, and to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly. For some questions, you will be given information in two or three sentences followed by four restatements of the information. You must then choose the best version. For other questions, you will be given paragraphs with their sentences out of order. You must then choose, from four suggestions, the best order for the sentences.

2. Principles and practices of soil and water conservation

These questions test for knowledge of the proper methods and techniques used to facilitate land and water conservation, and may include such areas as: proper drainage and erosion control, soil types, and watershed, stream, and stream bank protection.

3. Construction and maintenance of soil and water conservation projects

These questions test for knowledge of the methods, procedures and equipment used for building and maintaining conservation projects and may include such areas as: runoff diversions; farm ponds; stream protection; and drainage and erosion control.

4. Reading and interpreting maps, plans, charts and graphs

These questions test for the ability to understand and evaluate topographic maps, site and construction plans, and various types of graphic presentations. All the information needed to answer the questions will be contained in the maps, plans, graphs, and charts or within related written descriptions.

5. Basic surveying, including computations

These questions test for knowledge of the elementary concepts, procedures, and computations involved in performing surveys of various projects and land areas.

6. Nutrient management planning, including agricultural waste and barnyard runoff control

These questions test for knowledge of the concepts and practical applications involved in the evaluation and planning of soil nutrient control programs and projects; and the design and construction of drainage structures and other measures used to treat and control water and waste from agricultural operations.

The New York State Department of Civil Service has not prepared a test guide for this examination. However, candidates may find information in the publication "How to take a written test" helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available on line at:
<https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>

Applications and announcements are available at www.schuylercounty.us or the
Schuyler County Civil Service Office
105 Ninth St., Unit 21, Watkins Glen, NY 14891 (607) 535-8190

Issue Date: December 12, 2018

SCHUYLER COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE—GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINATIONS

Application: An original application must be filed for each separate examination. Applications must be received by 4:30pm p.m. in the Civil Service office on the “Last Filing Date” to be considered for this examination. We do not make formal acknowledgement of the receipt of an application or take responsibility for non-delivery or postal delay. Submission of a resume does not relieve you of the responsibility for completing all sections of the application. Answer every question; incomplete applications will be disapproved. Be sure to read the detailed announcement to determine whether or not you meet the announced requirements. No fee refund will be made to applicants who are disqualified or fail to appear for the examination. Notify this office if your address changes after applying. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved. Download application and forms at web site www.schuylercounty.us.

Education: A copy of your diploma should be submitted if you qualify by possession of a degree. Transcripts should be submitted whenever the qualifications require a specific college major or specified number of credits.

Fee and Fee Waiver: Application fee of \$15 must be submitted with application. Cash, money order or check made payable to Schuyler County Treasurer. Write exam name and number on check. The examination fee may be waived for persons claiming to be “unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household.” Use Schuyler County Waiver form.

Application Review: Disqualified candidates will receive a disapproval letter and will have the opportunity to submit facts in opposition to disqualification. Approved candidates will receive an admission letter a week before the date of the exam telling when and where to appear for the examination. If you do not receive your letter within five days of the examination, call the Civil Service office at 607-535-8190. Falsification or material misstatements of any part of the application may result in disqualification from the exam or from permanent competitive appointment. Statements on the application may be verified after the examination is held. At that time those candidates not meeting the requirements will be disqualified.

Residency: Candidates must be legal residents of Schuyler County or one of the contiguous counties (Yates, Seneca, Steuben, Chemung, or Tompkins) for at least one month immediately preceding the examination date. For some examinations, residency may be waived. Under Section 23-4a of Civil Service Law, a municipality may request a certification of eligible candidates who have been residents of that municipality for at least one month prior to certification.

Multiple Examinations: Qualified candidates may take a combination of examinations being given on the same date. The time limit for any combination or series of examinations cannot exceed eight (8) hours.

Cross-filing: If you have applied for any other civil service examinations to be given on the same test date by New York State or any other local government jurisdiction, you must notify Schuyler County Civil Service of your intent to take both a State and local government examination. When taking both a State and local government examination you will be required to take all your examinations at a State examination center. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examination. (2) If you have applied for examination with another local civil service agency, submit a cross filing form with each agency to make arrangements no later than two weeks before the date of the examinations; indicate the test site at which you wish to take your examination.

Calculators: Unless otherwise notified, candidates are permitted to use a quiet hand-held, solar or battery powered calculator. Devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited. No books or other reference materials are allowed.

Eligible Lists: Unless otherwise noted, the final rank order of the eligible list established as a result of this exam will be determined on the basis of the scores received on the written test, plus veterans and seniority credits where appropriate. The resulting eligible list for this examination will not be less than one year but no more than four years. Appointment from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept the appointment.

Rating: This examination is announced and will be rated in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of exams will apply to this examination.

Veterans/Military: Veterans or disabled veterans who wish to claim additional credit must submit a copy of their DD-214 and supporting paperwork before the eligible list is established. The requirements set by NYS for these credits must be met. Military Service members on active duty on the exam date may request a military make-up examination.

Children of Firefighters and Police Officers Killed in the Line of Duty: In conformance with section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, children of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive an additional ten points in a competitive examination for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent has served. You must inform this office when you submit your application and must also submit documentation before the eligible list is established.

Religious Observers: Most tests are held on Saturdays. If the test date conflicts with a religious observance or practice, check the box on the application. Arrangements will be made for an alternate test date, usually the following Monday.

Disabled Persons: If special accommodations for testing are required, please indicate in writing the disability and desired conditions necessary to accommodate your disability by the last filing date of the exam.

School District Positions: Per Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to be employed in a position designated by a school district as involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from that state education department is required.

Background Investigation: Candidates may be required to pass a pre-employment drug test and/or undergo a State and national criminal history background investigation, including a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment.

This examination may be rescheduled if there is a weather emergency. Listen to radio station WFLR for information.