

# Aquatic Invasive Species Job: Boater Education and Outreach



## CREW LEADER

**Dates:** Spring-Summer 2020

**Location:** Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Michigan State University, East Lansing.

Aquatic invasive species primarily spread from one water body to another by “hitchhiking” on boats, trailers, and other equipment. *Michigan State University leads a multi-year program to teach boaters how to reduce this risk by properly inspecting and cleaning their equipment.*

**Position Description:** A Crew Leader provides leadership for a 4-person summer crew, working alongside partners from the Huron-Manistee National Forest and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). You will have significant responsibility for the implementation of this outreach and education program.

General activities include:

1. Towing, operating, and maintaining a trailer-mounted power-washing unit safely at boat landings and events around Michigan, demonstrating boat inspection and washing techniques to recreational boaters;
2. Planning these educational events by working with partner organizations around the state to identify suitable locations and dates;
3. Preparing for and providing educational opportunities for people interested in learning about aquatic invasive species, best boating practices to reduce their spread, and how to most effectively work with the boating public to provide education on aquatic invasive species and boat cleaning;
4. Maintaining records of events, including costs, locations, numbers of volunteers and boaters trained, invasive species encountered, and public feedback; and
5. Working with program partners to promote the Mobile Boat Wash program through social media and local media outlets statewide, including newspapers, radio, and television.

Additionally, the **Crew Leader** will be responsible for assuring that the entire crew is operating effectively as a team to achieve program goals, including troubleshooting and encouraging good communication among all members of the team and the supervisors from MSU and EGLE. The Crew Leader is responsible for managing project funds and ensuring equipment and supplies are available and in good working order. The optimal candidate will have solid understanding of aquatic ecology and/or invasive species, and leadership experience.

**Qualifications:** Availability to travel around the state to boater outreach events, which will regularly occur on weekends, holidays, and occasionally overnight. The typical workweek is Wednesday through Sunday, with some variability. Valid drivers' license and eligibility to drive University-owned vehicles (see <http://www.rmi.msu.edu/form/employeedrivercertification.html>). Substantial knowledge and/or coursework in aquatic ecology and/or invasive species. Leadership experience. Interest in public outreach and freshwater management. Boating experience, experience hauling and maneuvering trailers, and experience planning and carrying out educational programming or other events are desirable qualifications, but not required.

**Position Dates:** Springtime work will involve preparation for the busy summer event season; will be part-time (approximately 4-8 hours per week) and potentially off-site. Summer (late May to mid-August) requires a full-time commitment (approximately 40 hours per week); specific start and end dates negotiable.

**Pay:** \$15.50/hour. Housing not provided.

**To Apply:** Send your current resume and a 1 to 2-page cover letter explaining your interest in and qualifications for the position, as well as contact information for 3 references, to the contact below. Include **CREW LEADER** in the subject line.

**Application Deadline: February 29, 2020.**

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