



**Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation  
TDEC-Environmental Consultant 3 (Natural Heritage Botanist)  
Division of Natural Areas**

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/na-natural-areas.html>

**Annual Salary Range: \$56,832 – \$90,901**

**About the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)**

The department is responsible for:

- Safeguarding the health and safety of Tennessee citizens from environmental hazards,
- Protecting and improving the quality of Tennessee's land, air, and water, and
- Managing the system of 56 Tennessee State Parks and 85 Natural Areas

TDEC has approximately 3,200 employees supported by a total budget of more than \$400 million with funding from dedicated fees and state parks revenue, federal sources, and the state general fund. The Department is the chief environmental and natural resource regulatory agency in Tennessee with delegated responsibility from the U.S. EPA to regulate sources of air pollution, radiological health issues, solid and hazardous waste, underground storage tanks, water pollution, water supply, and groundwater pollution. TDEC has eight regional offices serving as the primary point of contact for their respective regions.

**Summary & Distinguishing Features**

The Environmental Consultant 3 will serve as a Natural Heritage Program Botanist and will assist with the division's efforts to protect and conserve native plant species while serving as the division's liaison with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by coordinating endangered, threatened, and at-risk plant species recovery projects and the state's ginseng program. The position will report to the Natural Heritage Program Manager in the Bureau of Parks and Conservation Division of Natural Areas. Based in Nashville, this position may require some overnight travel.

**Duties and Essential Functions**

- Design, conduct and analyze plant conservation projects, using surveys, monitoring and basic conservation biology research.
- Assist with the review and compilation of the state's rare plant list, the maintenance of plant species and natural community records in the natural heritage database, and the ecological restoration and management of rare plant species habitats.
- Conduct field work and plant conservation projects in difficult terrain or habitat.
- Write grant proposals and conduct grant project management.
- Guide the assessment and ranking techniques process as it applies to the rare flora of a specific region.

- Communicate with a variety of conservation partners and maintain excellent working relationships. Serve as a resource of information for these business partners.
- Utilize working knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping software and Global Positioning System (GPS) units.
- Operate various types of equipment used for plant conservation.
- Conduct written and verbal public outreach related to plant conservation including publishing articles, serving as a guest speaker to external stakeholders, or partnering with specific Tennessee State Parks to provide public interpretive programs.

### **Competencies**

- Working knowledge of the ecological concepts and flora of the Eastern United States, Endangered Species Act, Lacey Act, CITES, and related laws.
- Familiar with conservation issues in Tennessee or the region.
- Experience with assessment and ranking techniques applied to the rare flora of a state or region, statistical methods and the display of data and analytical results, and databases used to track rare species locations.
- Excellent attention to detail and ability to organize complex projects, data, files, and records.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to write technical reports and correspondence.
- Experience guiding or implementing habitat management.
- Comfortable using Microsoft Office programs including Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint.

### **Minimum Qualifications**

Education and Experience: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in environmental science, physical sciences (e.g. physics, chemistry, geology, meteorology), ecology, sustainability or applied science in sustainability, life sciences (e.g. biology, microbiology, health physics or biophysics), environmental health, pre-medicine, engineering or other acceptable science or natural resource related field. Five years of full-time professional environmental program, natural resource conservation work. Graduate in acceptable science or natural resource related field may be substituted for the required experience, on a year-for-year basis, to a maximum of two years (24 semester hours is equivalent to one year).

### **Application**

The position opens on December 11, 2018. All interested candidates should submit applications via the Tennessee Department of Human Resources for the position TDEC-Environmental Consultant 3 at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/tennessee/default.cfm>. The position will remain posted until December 18, 2018. Candidates who meet the minimum qualifications will then receive supplementary questions to answer within five business days.

Prior to the above-listed application window, interested candidates may send a resume and writing example to [David.Lincicome@tn.gov](mailto:David.Lincicome@tn.gov). TDEC is an AA/EEO/ADA employer.