



## NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF NJ

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### JOB ANNOUNCEMENT:

## Organic Farming Conservation and Technical Services Specialist

Northeast Organic Farming Association of NJ (NOFA-NJ) is seeking a qualified individual for a new position at NOFA-NJ. NOFA-NJ, in collaboration with USDA/NRCS, is filling the Organic Farming Conservation and Technical Services Specialist position. This position will serve the organic and sustainable farmers throughout New Jersey by offering technical advice for diseases, insects, production and fertility, as well as write technical reports relating to organic methodology to assist farmers. The position will also serve to coordinate USDA/NRCS federal EQIP initiatives, advise NRCS employees, assist landowners in laying out conservation practices, and also conduct education and outreach activities on Farm Bill opportunities for organic producers.

#### Qualifications:

- Degree or advance degree in Agronomy, Horticulture, Soil Science, IPM or related field or equivalent experience
- Knowledge of organic agricultural practices, including production, insect and disease management, cover cropping, fertility, etc.
- Knowledge of USDA/NRCS Farm Bill Programs (EQIP, AMA, CSP, etc.)
- Current drivers license and own vehicle
- Ability to work independently
- Excellent writing skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to positively interact with a wide variety of people
- Computer skills including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and the ability to use other software with training.

#### General Duties

This position will travel throughout New Jersey to serve organic farmers, farmers transitioning to organic, answering questions or getting answers to questions in a timely manner to assist them to improve practices and respond to immediate pest or production issues. Writing and publishing technical reports and developing articles alerting farmers to urgent issues and offering solutions is a critical aspect of the position. Conducting on farm research, workshops and trainings as well as winter education events (i.e. NOFA-NJ Winter Conference, summer Twilight meetings, Beginning Farmer education).

This position will also perform work in support of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and other suitable USDA Farm Bill programs. These technical tasks will consist of promotion, outreach, education, landowner contacts, conservation planning, field evaluation and assessment of potential projects, assisting in applying accepted conservation practices, preparing report, conducting training coordinating and communicating with conservationists, engineers, customers and other NRCS personnel and partners.

The position is currently a one-year term position for federal fiscal year 2011 (Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 – Sept. 30, 2011). It is anticipated that federal funding will be available annually to continue the position, however it is not guaranteed.

Please call 908-371-1111 ext. 3 or email [david.glenn@nofanj.org](mailto:david.glenn@nofanj.org) for more details regarding this position. To be filled by **September 15, 2010**. Funding is for one year but renewable dependent on funding.