

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Field & Water Operations Assistant Six-Month Contract, one position

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) invites applications for a six-month contract position as Field & Water Operations Assistant.

Why work for us?

With our small, dedicated team, you will know your co-workers by name and have direct access to experienced professionals across forestry, flood management, and conservation lands. This position offers the opportunity to work outdoors, develop advanced operational skills, and play a direct role in flood protection, dam operations, and conservation area maintenance across the watershed.

Summary of Functions

Reporting to the Field Operations Coordinator, the Field & Water Operations Assistant supports daily field and water operations activities across SVCA properties and water control structures. This role includes responsibility for dam and erosion control maintenance, conservation area upkeep, and assisting during flood events and winter operations.

Qualifications

- Experience in the operation and maintenance of equipment and fleet (e.g., backhoe, commercial lawn mower, snowmobile, ATV, farm tractor, cars, trucks, vans) and small tools
- Practical knowledge of general construction activities including carpentry, plumbing, concrete work, and shop experience
- Ability to supervise and direct assigned contract staff in a responsible manner
- Ability to perform manual labour outdoors in varying terrain and weather conditions
- Demonstrated tact and sound judgment when dealing with staff and the public
- Basic knowledge of legislation and internal policies related to the workplace environment
- Ability to maintain detailed digital records using Authority applications
- Self-motivated with strong organizational skills
- Valid Ontario Driver's License
- Willingness to obtain if requested: Chainsaw Operator Certificate
- Ability to provide a negative vulnerable sector check

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist the Field Operations Coordinator with daily responsibilities

- Perform day-to-day maintenance activities on flood and erosion control structures and Authority properties, including slope grass cutting, bathroom maintenance, dam maintenance and repair, vegetation removal, and signage installation
- Assist with installation and removal of stoplogs and flash boards in Authority-owned dams and ensure operational readiness of water control structures
- Assist with field operations during flood events and emergency response activities
- Assist in maintaining conservation areas, including grass cutting, safety inspections, and winter maintenance
- Support forestry and restoration projects under the direction of the Manager of Forestry and Lands
- Complete snow removal, hazard tree removal, and snow surveys
- Maintain detailed documentation, logbooks, and data collection records
- Comply with all SVCA Health and Safety policies and procedures
- Perform other duties as assigned appropriate to the position

Work Environment and Conditions

Applicants must possess their own Green Patch CSA-approved safety boots, be able to work outdoors in all weather conditions, and be available for the duration of the season. Some heavy lifting and work in varied terrain is required.

Training

SVCA offers comprehensive training including WHMIS, First Aid, Health and Safety, and on-the-job instruction for equipment operation.

Location

- Sulphur Spring Conservation Area outside of Hanover, Ontario, with work throughout the watershed.

Wages and Benefits

- 40 hours per week, full-time, 6-month temporary contract with possibility of term adjustment
- Hourly wage range: \$25.73 to \$30.62 per hour
- Additional 4% in lieu of vacation pay
- Optional enrolment in OMERS pension plan

Start date

As soon as possible

Closing date for applications

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 12:00pm

Please submit your cover letter and resumé outlining how your experience meets the necessary qualifications by email to:

Human Resources, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
careers@svca.on.ca

Email is the preferred submission method. Submit your cover letter and resume as one .pdf document. Document file name and email subject line should be your name followed by _FIWA2026 (e.g., John.Smith_FIWA2026.pdf).

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

SVCA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In accordance with *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)*, SVCA will provide accommodations throughout the recruitment, selection and/or assessment process to applicants with disabilities. If you require disability – related accommodations or more information about accommodation, please visit: www.saugeenconservation.ca/access

SVCA does not use artificial intelligence to screen, assess, or select applicants for this position. This job posting is for a newly created contract position.

All personal information is collected under the authority of the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)*.