



# CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

The State of Connecticut, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is charged with conserving, improving and protecting the natural resources and the environment of the state of Connecticut as well as making cheaper, cleaner and more reliable energy available for the people and businesses of the state. DEEP is committed to playing a positive role fostering a sustainable and prosperous economic future for the state.

DEEP is organized into three branches:

- The Energy Branch which includes the Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy, which develops forward-looking energy efficiency, infrastructure and alternative power programs.
- The Environmental Quality Branch which works to protect the air, land and water resources of the state by regulating air emissions, wastewater discharges and solid and hazardous wastes.
- The Environmental Conservation Branch which is charged with managing the state's natural resources and conserving and managing statewide recreation lands and resources through the acquisition of open space and the management of resources, including state parks, to meet the outdoor recreation needs of the public.

DEEP is seeking a Deputy Commissioner to lead the Environmental Conservation Branch. We are looking for a dynamic leader who will inspire staff, build positive relationships with external stakeholders, advocate for balanced management of natural resources, plan for the future including a changing climate, promote efficiency in agency practices, and uphold Connecticut's laws and regulations.

The Environmental Conservation Branch consists of two bureaus:

- The Bureau of Natural Resources manages the state's natural resources (particularly fish, wildlife, and forests) through a regulation, management, research, and public education. Connecticut is a state rich with natural resources and a great diversity of habitats, landscapes, plant life, and wildlife. From the coastline of Long Island Sound, to the Litchfield Hills, the Connecticut River Valley and the Eastern Highlands, DEEP works to protect and preserve the natural resources and scenic beauty that make Connecticut a special place to live, work, or visit.
- The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation manages and conserves statewide recreation lands and resources through the acquisition of open space and the management of resources, including state parks, to meet the outdoor recreation needs of the public. Connecticut's system of state parks and forests, state boat launches, and waterways, provide many opportunities for outdoor

recreation for residents and visitors alike. The bureau also houses the State Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police. EnCon police are responsible for providing natural resource protection and public safety through education, outreach and enforcement in the areas of fish and game, boating, commercial fishing and aquaculture, wildlife management, and state parks and forests covering over 255,000 acres.

### **WHY THIS POSITION?**

This position offers a challenging and rewarding opportunity for public service in one of the country's leading state agencies devoted to environmental protection. The position offers a competitive annual salary range and includes a generous benefit package worth over 50% of annual salary.

### **SELECTION PLAN**

This position is unclassified and open to the public. Applications will be accepted and considered on a rolling basis. The recruitment will remain open until the position is filled. Qualified candidates may be asked to interview by phone or in person.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Please send a cover letter, and resume or curriculum vitae to Lee Sawyer, Chief of Staff, at [lee.sawyer@ct.gov](mailto:lee.sawyer@ct.gov).

### **PURPOSE OF JOB CLASS (NATURE OF WORK)**

The Deputy Commissioner provides leadership for the 500+ fulltime and seasonal employees of the agency's Environmental Conservation Branch and represents the agency in various public forums. The Deputy Commissioner will work closely with the Commissioner to formulate and implement policies to advance the agency's mission and effectively manage the broad and diverse programs within the branch.

As part of the agency's leadership, the Deputy Commissioner engages in strategic policy and operations planning for the agency's environmental conservation priorities and oversees the development of comprehensive management planning for the state's natural resources and parks.

### **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES**

The Deputy Commissioner will lead the development of work plans for the Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources Bureaus and manage the resources of the Environmental Conservation Branch to meet objectives of those plans, provide direction to and supervision of branch managers to ensure branch objectives are clear and implemented effectively, and manage multiple budgets and funding sources.

Examples of current initiatives include:

- Recruitment, reactivation, and retention of hunters and anglers;
- Advancing nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- Forming new and innovative public-private partnerships to expand state park services and amenities;

- Implementing CT DEEP's No Child Left Inside® initiative, a nationally recognized program that fosters greater appreciation and understanding of nature by connecting families and children with the outdoors;
- Outreach and education on wildlife management issues, including human-bear interactions.

### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

The successful candidate will be a strategic, dynamic, hardworking, experienced environmental manager with subject matter expertise and demonstrated skills in team leadership. Strong communication skills across medias is critical to working effectively with legislators, stakeholder groups, and communities.

Desired qualifications include a graduate degree in a relevant field, demonstrated public administration experience, and knowledge of principles of conservation and environmental protection.

An understanding of the natural resources of Connecticut/New England and their conservation challenges, as well as tourism, are a plus.

Desired skills include:

- Ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with stakeholders.
- Ability to set and achieve goals, track and measure success, and solve problems.
- Effective communication with diverse audiences.
- Effective at leading of strategic planning efforts.
- Ability to manage a complex budget.
- Ability to manage multiple competing priorities.

### **AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The State of Connecticut is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and strongly encourages the applications of women, minorities, and persons with disabilities.

