



Job Title: Calusa Waterkeeper

Location: Remote/Work from Home (Occasional travel to CWK office, science lab, field sites, speaking engagements, water patrol by boat)

Hours: Full-Time, 40 hours per week (occasional weekends and evenings)

Reports To: Board President

About Calusa Waterkeeper

Calusa Waterkeeper (CWK) is a non-profit grassroots organization committed to protecting and restoring the Caloosahatchee River from Lake Okeechobee to the Gulf and its surrounding watersheds. CWK works to reduce pollution, restore the health of our waters, and advocate for strong environmental policies. Our mission is driven by science, research, education, and community engagement. Join us in ensuring clean, healthy, and abundant water for all.

Position Summary

We are seeking a passionate, dedicated, and inspiring **Waterkeeper** to join our team. This full-time, salaried position plays a critical role in protecting and advocating for the 1,000 square miles of waterways within our work area. As the voice and face of CWK's science, research, advocacy, education, and litigation efforts, the Waterkeeper will serve as the lead on water quality monitoring, pollution mitigation, community engagement, and advocacy for clean water. This is an exciting opportunity for a leader with a deep commitment to environmental protection and the health of our waterways.

Key Responsibilities

1. Field Work & Science

- **Watershed Monitoring:** Regularly patrol the Caloosahatchee River and its tributaries via land, air, and water to monitor water quality, pollution sources, and ecosystem health.
- **Water Testing:** Conduct and manage monthly water quality testing at various locations in the watershed, collect and analyze surface water samples, and ensure adherence to Standard Operating Procedures.
- **Pollution Response:** Investigate pollution complaints, document findings, contact authorities, and assist the public in addressing concerns.
- **Data Management:** Maintain accurate field data for advocacy, legal actions, and scientific research purposes.

- **Cleanup Coordination:** Lead litter removal efforts and assist with site selection, cataloging results, and community engagement in cleanup events.
- **Asset Management:** Oversee the maintenance of CWK assets, including boats, vehicles, and scientific equipment, ensuring they are properly serviced and maintained within budget.
- **Inventory & Purchasing:** Tracks, manages, budgets and places purchase orders for equipment and supplies necessary for monthly water and air testing

2. Advocacy & Policy

- **Pollution Monitoring & Enforcement:** Monitor permitted discharges from Lake O and other sources, ensuring compliance with regulations. Advocate for enforcement actions when violations are detected.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Work closely with citizens, local businesses, governmental agencies, and partner organizations to advocate for pollution reduction and watershed protection.
- **Policy Advocacy:** Write comment letters, attend public hearings, and speak at governmental meetings to support policies that protect clean water and environmental health.
- **Public Engagement:** Work to raise awareness of local environmental issues through media outreach, community events, and direct engagement with local decision-makers.

3. Education, Outreach & Media Relations

- **Content Development:** Work with internal or external marketing team to develop educational materials and outreach content in various formats (presentations, social media, press releases, newsletters, blogs) to inform the public on water quality issues and solutions.
- **Public Speaking:** Deliver presentations at community meetings, conferences, and events to educate the public on water conservation, pollution prevention, and CWK's mission.
- **Media Engagement:** Act as the primary spokesperson for CWK, responding to media inquiries, conducting interviews, and advocating for environmental issues in local and regional media outlets.
- **Community Partnerships:** Build and maintain relationships with stakeholders, including local governments, universities, businesses, and community organizations, to support water quality initiatives.

4. Ranger Program Leadership

- **Ranger Program Oversight:** Manage and grow CWK's ranger program, including recruitment, training, and retention of volunteers.
- **Community Outreach:** Lead educational and outreach programs, such as the Vertical Oyster Garden and Seagrass initiatives, and collaborate on water conservation efforts.

- **Science & Education:** Ensure high standards for water and air quality testing, manage the CWK science lab, and maintain its equipment.

Qualifications & Skills

- **Environmental Expertise:** Strong background in environmental science, water quality monitoring, and pollution control.
- **Leadership:** Proven leadership experience in a nonprofit, environmental, or advocacy organization.
- **Public Speaking:** Comfortable and experienced in public speaking, media interviews, and representing an organization at the local, state, and national levels.
- **Communication Skills:** Excellent written and verbal communication skills for writing reports, educational materials, press releases, and social media content.
- **Boating & Field Experience:** Experience with boating, field research, and scientific data collection.
- **Passion for Clean Water:** Deep commitment to protecting clean water and preserving ecosystems.
- **Collaborative Spirit:** Ability to work effectively with diverse groups of people, including staff, volunteers, community members, and governmental agencies.
- **Self-Starter:** Ability to work independently and remotely, managing time effectively while adhering to deadlines.
- **Organizational Skills:** Strong attention to detail with the ability to manage multiple projects and maintain organized field data, reports, and budgets.

Additional Requirements

- Ability to travel within the watershed region as needed.
- Experience with environmental law, policy advocacy, and working with government agencies is a plus.
- Ability to perform physical tasks related to fieldwork, including boating, walking, and lifting supplies.
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation for travel within the region.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Teams, Outlook, PowerPoint, Video, and Social Media.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and any relevant work samples to info@calusawaterkeeper.org or through our website at calusawaterkeeper.org/jobs/. The cover letter should highlight your passion for clean water, experience with environmental advocacy, and why you're a great fit for this role.

Calusa Waterkeeper is an equal-opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.