

Subject: MS Assistantship at the University of Arkansas-Monticello

Position #: 2016-006

M.S. Assistantship: Mapping Arkansas's ash resource and determination of mortality and regeneration trends

The School of Forestry & Natural Resources at the University of Arkansas at Monticello is seeking applicants for a M.S. Assistantship available beginning August 16, 2016. The assistantship is half time and carries an annual stipend of \$15,000 plus tuition.

Project: Ash trees represent a critical ecological component of bottomland hardwood forests, and they provide \$2 million of annual revenue to Arkansas landowners. The recent detection of the invasive emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*; EAB) represents a serious threat to Arkansas's ash resource and Forestry sector. This project will address the question of "how to better map and model ash distribution using various methods including satellite imagery, aerial photos, and ground-surveys". This project complements existing work in evaluating EAB invasion potential, spread rates, and ecological consequences in Arkansas and offers a great opportunity to use technological advances to solve conservation and management problems. Experience in object-based image classification, geospatial data analysis, and remote sensing data processing is preferred. Experience in computer languages/environments such as R or Matlab is a plus.

Requirements: Applicants must have a 2.7 overall undergraduate GPA or 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate courses and satisfactory GRE scores. A B.S. degree in a natural resources-related field is also required. Applicants must have a valid U.S. driver's license or obtain the same within 60 days of starting employment. Overnight travel is required as well as the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions.

Location and Facilities: The School of Forestry & Natural Resources is located in Monticello, Arkansas in the southeastern portion of the state. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is also headquartered here, and is administered by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is the research and extension arm for forest-based programs within the State. Additionally, the USFS Arkansas Forestry Sciences Lab is located at the School. The School and Center maintain several state-of-the-art laboratories (hydrology, soil, quantitative analysis, silviculture, wildlife ecology & management) available for graduate research and education.

Application & Additional Information: Graduate program and application information can be found at www.uamont.edu/sfnr. Applicants must be admitted to the University of Arkansas at Monticello and apply to the School of Forestry & Natural Resources before they can be considered for an assistantship. Applicants must submit all GRE scores, official transcripts, a statement of interests, and three letters of recommendation. Please indicate the position number above on all application materials and inquires. For additional information, please contact:

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The position is available until a qualified applicant is selected.

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