



## Job Announcement

# Entomologist

**FILING DEADLINE:**

**SALARY: \$2,132.76 to \$3,486.46 biweekly, DOE**

For applications and a current job description, please visit our website at [www.lcvcd.org](http://www.lcvcd.org) or contact Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., District Manager/Research Director at [jiscott@lcvcd.org](mailto:jiscott@lcvcd.org) or (707) 263-4770

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Are you curious? Do you enjoy fieldwork and lab work? Do you want to protect public health? Do you like to do research? Do you want to publish? Do you like to share your knowledge with your colleagues at conferences?

If you answered yes to the above questions, consider applying to be the Entomologist at the Lake County Vector Control District.

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### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Under the direction and supervision of the District Manager/Research Director and in cooperation with the Vector Biologist, the Entomologist plans and conducts the District's research and surveillance program for mosquitoes, ticks, biting flies, and other vectors, and vector-borne diseases. Employees are encouraged to publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals and present at state and national conferences. Recent work done at the District has included a variety of studies on the biology of the *Culex thriambus*, *Culex (Neoculex) spp.*, *Aedes sierrensis*, *Culex stigmatosoma*, *Cx. pipiens*, *Culiseta spp.*, and *Culicoides spp.*; blood meal identification in mosquitoes and *Culicoides spp.*; investigating *Rickettsia 364D* and the seasonality of *Dermacentor occidentalis* ticks; triatomines and Chagas disease, blackflies and canine onchocerciasis, and the aftereffects of wildland fires on mosquitoes and mosquito control. The District collaborates with other local agencies in Lake County, as well as with other Districts, Universities, and state and federal agencies. Applicants are encouraged to review the District's list of publications at [www.lcvcd.org/media-room](http://www.lcvcd.org/media-room).

The Entomologist position requires a thorough knowledge of entomology including taxonomy, biological and physical sciences, investigative methods, research techniques, and statistical analysis. He/she should be familiar with good laboratory practices, laboratory safety, and chemical and biological safety practices. The Entomologist must accurately interpret and apply applicable rules and regulations.

He/she works closely with the Vector Biologist and Vector Control Technicians to investigate and apply scientific principles to practical situations. Experience with mosquitoes, ticks, and other vectors is desirable, but not required.

The Entomologist and Vector Biologist work together to develop a training curriculum in vector identification, surveillance, and related activities for Vector Control Technicians (VCTs), the Laboratory Technician, seasonal employees, and interns, and provide VCTs with assistance with unusual or difficult vector problems. He/she may supervise seasonal laboratory assistants and interns. Applicants should refer to the job description for additional information.

### **PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEMANDS**

The Entomologist must be sighted with the ability to demonstrate measurable depth perception; possess a minimum of single ear-aided hearing; be able to speak, read, and write effectively in English; be able to perform basic math and algebra calculations and statistical analyses; be able to regularly operate a motor vehicle; be able to swim; and be able to wear a respirator and other required personal protective equipment (PPE). This is a medium work position that includes sitting; standing; walking; lifting (regularly up to 25 lbs., infrequently up to 50 lbs.); carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; visual accommodation; peripheral vision; and driving.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

It is the applicant's responsibility to identify in his/her application materials how he/she meets the minimum requirements listed below:

- B.S. in Entomology or a closely related field with specific coursework in entomology. An advanced degree (M.S. or Ph.D.) in entomology or other closely related field, or experience working in a vector surveillance and control program is desirable but not required.
- Must have or obtain a valid California driver's license within 60 days of beginning employment.
- Must be insurable with the District insurance carrier using the accepted guidelines of the insurance provider. A DMV records check will be made before employment is offered.
- Must have or obtain certification as a Public Health Vector Control Certified Technician in Categories A (Pesticide Use and Safety), B (Mosquito Biology and Control), C (Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control), and D (Vertebrate Vector Control) or earn certification within 12 months of beginning employment.
- Must be able to swim.
- Must establish that he/she is a United States citizen or an alien authorized to work in the United States before appointment.

### **TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT**

This is a 40-hour/week paid position. The workweek is generally Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and may be adjusted for weather, disease activity, or other District needs. The Entomologist may be

required to work in excess of 8 hours/day or 40 hrs/week and occasional weekends; earned overtime is accumulated as compensatory time off (CTO). Workers Compensation is provided.

The District participates in the CalPERS Retirement System. Benefits include medical, dental, and vision insurance, 12 paid holidays per year, 12 paid days of sick leave per year, and 10 to 20 days of paid vacation per year, based on years of District service. This is a represented position. Employees may participate in two different voluntary 457 Deferred Compensation plans and AFLAC. Employees are protected under the Workers Compensation Laws of California. The District reserves the right to change or alter this description at its sole discretion.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Interested individuals should send a cover letter/statement of purpose; a completed LCVCD job application; and a current resume or CV that includes training, experience, and education. Applicants are encouraged to include reprints of publications, letters of recommendation, and other documents in support of their applications. Resumes or CVs submitted without a completed application form will not be considered. Please visit our website ([www.lcvcd.org](http://www.lcvcd.org)) or call or email the District to request an application and job description. Completed applications and supporting documents may be emailed to [jjscott@lcvcd.org](mailto:jjscott@lcvcd.org), mailed to the District, or hand-delivered.

### **EXAMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

Applicants selected for interviews will be based on a qualifying evaluation of the training, education, and experience provided in their application packets. Those candidates selected for interviews will receive an oral interview to assess training, experience, and ability to perform the duties of the position. Selection will be based on a combined overall assessment of the oral interview and application. If an offer of employment is made, the applicant shall be required to submit to a background check. Any offer of employment is conditional upon a satisfactory background check, drug test, and medical examination. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. Please contact the District at least five (5) working days before a scheduled examination or interview if you require accommodation in the examination or interview process.

### **MEDICAL TESTING**

Applicants selected for appointment must pass medical examinations and drug tests administered by the District's physician. The Lake County Vector Control District is committed to maintaining a drug- and alcohol-free workplace.

### **About the Lake County Vector Control District**

The Lake County Vector Control District is an independent special district that serves all of Lake County. In addition to mosquito and mosquito-borne disease surveillance and control, the District also conducts regular surveillance for ticks and tick-borne diseases, the nuisance midge *Chaoborus astictopus* (Clear Lake Gnat), and surveillance and control for various *Culicoides* species. The District responds as needed to other vectors and vector-borne diseases that occur within the county such as triatomine bugs, Chagas disease, black flies, canine onchocerciasis, yellowjacket wasps, and dog heartworm. The District maintains a strong research program to investigate the variety of unusual vectors and vector situations that occur within its boundaries and shares its findings at state and national conferences and journals.

### **About Lake County, CA**

Lake County blends outdoor adventure with laid-back charm. Nestled amidst the coastal mountains of Northern California, it boasts the world-class Clear Lake, a 63-square-mile paradise for bass fishing and water sports. Renowned for having the cleanest air in the United States, Lake County offers a tranquil escape just 2.5 hours from the bustling cities of San Francisco and Sacramento. Explore the county's abundant natural beauty through hiking, camping, cycling, kayaking, rafting, birdwatching, and many other outdoor activities. Explore charming towns overflowing with local wineries, farm-to-table delights, and local farmers' markets.

