



Southeastern and Equity Farm Outreach Coordinator

Full-time remote position, with a preference for candidates in Georgia.

Part-time contract positions are also available in other areas of the U.S. (See below for more info.)

The Rural Investment to Protect our Environment (RIPE) is hiring an agricultural outreach professional to engage farmers, ranchers, livestock producers and agricultural associations to support a federal policy that invests in farmers and the environment. RIPE is a farmer-led nonprofit advancing a voluntary stewardship program that provides a reasonable return to farmers as part of a national climate policy. This position will focus outreach to farmers in Southeastern states, including farmers of color, to ensure historically disenfranchised farmers are included in all stages of the program design and implementation.

RIPE seeks a self-motivated and experienced agricultural outreach specialist to coordinate and manage outreach, base-building, training, education and leadership development among farmers and ranchers in the Southeastern United States. The coordinator will engage growers to build awareness of and support for a **groundbreaking and timely approach to federal climate legislation that delivers a win for farmers, ranchers and the environment.** If you are excited to engage and mobilize growers in the Southern U.S. to secure a much-deserved profit opportunity from American climate policy, this is the opportunity for you.

Hiring priority is for those based in Georgia, but we are willing to consider exceptional candidates based in other areas of the Southeast.

About RIPE

RIPE is a nonprofit based in Washington, D.C., with staff around the country that work on the following goals:

- Comprehensively address climate change with a bipartisan coalition.
- Fairly compensate farmers with a profitable and reliable revenue stream that communities can rely upon in an era of declining rural economies, volatile commodity prices and disrupted access to international markets.
- Invest in voluntary agricultural stewardship practices to improve drinking water quality, soil health and climate change mitigation.

Key Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the position include but are not limited to the tasks below. **If you are skilled in some, but not all of these tasks, please still consider applying** The position will report to the agricultural outreach director.

- Develop and enact effective strategies and actions to build awareness of, and support for, the RIPE Roadmap with farmers of all sizes and backgrounds in Southeastern states and with dedicated time to engage historically marginalized farmers.
- Identify and cultivate membership from farmer-leaders and agricultural trade associations in row crops and livestock.
- Form partnerships with agricultural organizations to reach an expanded network of growers.
- Create activities such as committee meetings and surveys for members to provide input on policy design and outreach strategy.
- Maintain positive, supportive and proactive relationships with key stakeholders.
- Support the development and growth of RIPE's Farmer Advisory Network (FAN), a nationwide stakeholder body of farmers and ranchers; co-facilitate FAN meetings.
- Identify potential steering committee members in coordination with the vice president of outreach and government relations and ag outreach director.
- Support RIPE's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts by dedicating 50% of outreach time to marginalized farmers with the goal of recruiting them to join RIPE's membership and leadership bodies.
- Support the growth and engagement of RIPE's DEI committee by identifying new members to serve and co-facilitating meetings. This committee is a nationwide stakeholder body of farmers and ranchers who have experienced racism, marginalization and exclusion in the context of USDA programs that provides advice and recommendations to RIPE's steering committee and staff.
- Determine the frequency and content of calls, meetings and training opportunities with farmers and ranchers in the organizer's area of responsibility; facilitate calls and/or meetings to provide opportunities for farmers and ranchers to discuss producer concerns relevant to climate policy; learn about the policymaking process; discuss current events impacting the community; and identify upcoming advocacy and organizing opportunities.
- Mobilize members to contact agricultural associations and other stakeholders as necessary.
- Organize campaigns for op-eds, letters to the editor and other media opportunities to engage local press.
- Co-develop and facilitate leadership development training with ag outreach director and communications director.
- Network with other groups that are organizing relevant agricultural campaigns and connect RIPE stakeholders to those campaigns.
- Maintain updated statistics about RIPE grower involvement, activities and outcomes using a shared online database.
- Collaborate with RIPE staff to provide holistic support to all participating growers.
- Actively participate in regional and organizational planning with RIPE staff.
- Attend, present at and provide resources at relevant grower events, trainings and conferences as appropriate.

Skills, Abilities and Qualifications

- Significant experience working in agricultural outreach.
- Prior experience working with socially disadvantaged agricultural producers and their communities.
- Outgoing personality; ability to work with people from a variety of agricultural backgrounds and to navigate complex political dynamics.
- Excellent organizational skills with ability to manage diverse projects simultaneously, solve problems and juggle competing priorities.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, interpersonal skills and self-motivation.
- Positive, proactive and personable team player.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.
- Passionate about the opportunity to build power among agricultural producers to earn a net financial benefit from U.S. climate policy.

Please apply by submitting your resume, cover letter and salary expectations to Agricultural Outreach Director Jamie Powers at [jpowers\[at\]RIPEroadmap.org](mailto:jpowers@RIPEroadmap.org).

In your cover letter, please describe your experience working with farmers and/or agricultural associations, what you learned from those experiences and your approach to agricultural outreach generally. Please include “Southeastern and Equity Farm Outreach Coordinator” in the email subject line.

Please apply by Jan. 23, 2022. Although we will accept applications after this deadline, applications will be considered on a rolling basis with preference given to those received before Jan 23. We respectfully request no follow-up calls or emails.

RIPE is also seeking to hire for a few contract, part-time positions in other parts of the country on a rolling basis. If you are interested in those, please send a cover letter and resume with a subject line “Outreach Contractor.”

RIPE is an independently operating project of the nonprofit umbrella organization Multiplier, a nationally recognized nonprofit with a growing portfolio of innovative initiatives that conserve and protect a sustainable and resilient world (www.multiplier.org). RIPE is in the process of spinning off to be an independent nonprofit in 2022, with a farmer-led governing board.

EEO STATEMENT:

Multiplier and RIPE celebrate diversity and are committed to building teams and partnerships that represent a variety of backgrounds, perspectives and skills. Multiplier and RIPE are also committed to providing an environment of mutual respect that is free from discrimination and harassment. Multiplier and RIPE prohibit discrimination in its governance, programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, marital status, amnesty, status as a covered veteran, because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from public assistance, or for any other nonmerit-based factor.