



NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM NOTICE OF VACANCY

Title: Water Quality Trash Reduction Initiative Intern

Posting Number: WRM-2024-8i

Opening Date: January 25, 2024

Closing Date: March 13, 2024

Approximate Start Date of Internship: Summer 2024

Approximate Duration of Internship: 8 to 10 weeks

Existing Vacancies: 1

Location: Trenton, NJ

Internship Hours Per Week: 2 to 3 days a week, 14-21 hours per week

Hourly Rate: Sliding Scale based on Education Level (\$16-\$21 Per Hour)

Program: Division of Water Monitoring, Standards and Pesticide Control
Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards (BEARS)

Program Description: The Division of Water Monitoring, Standards and Pesticide Control (DWMSPC) regulates pesticides and assesses New Jersey's waters to protect and manage public drinking water supplies, recreational uses, shellfish harvesting, and the health of aquatic organisms, in accordance with State and Federal regulations.

BEARS is responsible for conducting and coordinating environmental stewardship, maintaining clean shorelines, water quality analysis and restoration, and water quality standards programs and activities designed to protect, maintain, and enhance water quality for all waters of the state in accordance with federal and state regulations. This is accomplished through BEARS' development of both New Jersey's Surface Water Quality Standards and Ground Water Quality Standards, conducting water quality assessment of all surface waters and determining the causes and sources of water quality impairment. BEARS is responsible for determining the pollutant

reductions needed to restore water quality, through the development and implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Watershed Based Plans (WBPs). BEARS administers the state's Beach Monitoring Program to ensure coastal water quality is safe for recreational bathing and develops, promotes and supports community-based environmental stewardship programs like the AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors Program and Community Water Monitoring to raise public awareness about watershed issues and promote watershed stewardship through hands-on experience.

Project Description: A recent United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) memo, "Information Concerning 2024 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions", March 2023 directed states and territories to address trash-related pollution. Trash pollution is a water quality concern throughout the United States and a regular focus of many different entities, including non-governmental organizations, local governments, community groups, state-participatory science collaborations, and federal agencies. Although the presence of trash in waterways is often apparent, it can be challenging to quantify and geographically define water quality impacts. The data collected by these entities can be key in successfully determining the location, quantity, and types of trash pollution throughout waterbodies.

In line with the federal government's focus on combatting trash pollution, BEARS is embarking on an initiative to actively solicit, collect, and evaluate trash-related data from internal (DEP) and external entities and use that data, along with available state data, to make water quality assessment decisions for 303(d) purposes and identify trash-impaired waterbodies, consistent with requirements eventually leading to a Trash TMDL development.

Specific to the Position: The intern would undertake an effort to research information regarding trash collection/reduction efforts across New Jersey. Research would identify efforts by various governmental and non-governmental organizations in the State and how they quantify and geographically define trash collection. The quantity and types of trash collection, methods used for collection, scales etc. would be compiled and recorded in a database. The intern would also write a summary report of his/her findings. Recommendation based on this research would then be used in water quality standards development, water quality assessment and impairment listing and TMDL decision making. The intern can work off an initial framework/outline that BEARS has prepared.

Preferred Area of Study: Environmental science and/or water quality background with ability to perform basic research and compile a database. Good writing skills preferred.

License: Appointee will be required to possess a driver's license valid in New Jersey only if the operation of a vehicle, rather than employee mobility, is necessary to perform the essential duties of the position.

Residency: All persons newly hired on or after September 1, 2011 have one year from the date of employment to establish, and then maintain principal residence in the State of New Jersey subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:14-7 (L.2011, Chapter 70), also known as the "New Jersey First Act".

Authorization to Work: Selected candidates must be authorized to work in the United States per the Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services regulations. Note: The State of New Jersey does not provide sponsorship for citizenship to the United States.

Veteran's Preference: To qualify for New Jersey Veteran's Preference/status, you must establish Veteran's Preference through the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs. Please submit proof of your Veteran's Preference along with your resume as indicated below. For more information, please visit <https://nj.gov/military/veterans/services/civil-service/preference/>

SAME applicants: If you are applying under the NJ SAME program, your supporting documents (Schedule A or B letter) must be submitted along with your resume by the closing date indicated above. For more information on the SAME program, please visit <https://nj.gov/csc/same/overview/index.shtml>, email SAME@csc.nj.gov, or call CSC at (609) 292-4144 and select Option #3.

Submit Resume and Internship Information Form by 4:00PM on the closing date to:

Human Resources

DEPinternships@dep.nj.gov

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to inclusive hiring and a diverse workforce. We strongly encourage people from all backgrounds to apply. Accommodations under ADA will be provided upon request.

