



DNERR RESEARCH INTERN

Type of Recruitment	Casual Seasonal (Summer Intern)
Pay	\$17/Hour
Agency	DNREC/Climate, Coastal and Energy/Coastal Section
Employment Term	Full-time / 12 Weeks
Location(s)	Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve – St Jones Reserve, 818 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901.

Introduction

The [Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control](http://dnrec.delaware.gov) protects and manages the state's natural resources, protects public health, provides outdoor recreational opportunities and educates Delawareans about the environment. The intern is part of the Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy's Coastal Section, which works to advance the Department's mission to protect Delaware's environment for current and future generations. For more information, visit the website at dnrec.delaware.gov and connect with @DelawareDNREC on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), X (formerly known as [Twitter](#)) or [LinkedIn](#).

Summary Statement:

The DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy is seeking applications for a Research Intern to assist the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve and Coastal Management Program with research and monitoring projects focusing on tidal marsh ecosystems as well as participatory science projects such as horseshoe crab surveys. The intern will gain hands on research experience, including data collection and interpretation, and learn about on-going research and monitoring efforts in estuarine ecosystems including but not limited to green bulkhead monitoring and sampling, nest box monitoring, analysis of avian nests, soundscape ecology monitoring, and marsh vegetation monitoring.

Working closely with the Coastal Section scientists, the intern will continue the work of the 2024 DNREC intern on a project categorizing the benthic attached organisms (epibiota) on adult horseshoe crab carapaces and will use this information to further develop a comprehensive guide of these organisms.



Benefits of Interning with DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal & Energy

Hands-on Experience – by providing an intern with the opportunity to gain practical, hands-on experience in coastal applied science. This includes working directly with professionals in the field, learning about various techniques, and participating in fieldwork and data collection.

- Be able to identify common epibiota attached to horseshoe crabs.
- Be able to identify at least 10 common wetland plant and animal species.

Skill Development – by providing a platform for developing and honing a wide range of skills, including data collection, communication, problem-solving, and project management. These skills are valuable in both academic and professional settings.

- Understand and demonstrate various research methodologies used for coastal monitoring projects.
- Be able to manage and interpret scientific data.

Networking Opportunities – by offering a chance to network with professionals in the coastal management field. Building these connections can be instrumental in future career advancement and accessing job opportunities.

Resume Enhancement – by interning with the Coastal Section, one can significantly enhance a resume as an internship demonstrates practical experience and serves as a valuable steppingstone for launching a career in environmental fields.

Personal Growth – by offering hands-on opportunities, interns often face new challenges and responsibilities, which can help them develop confidence, resilience, and adaptability.

Overall, interning with DNREC can provide a rewarding experience, offering valuable skills, knowledge, and connections that can benefit interns both personally and professionally.



Job Duties:

- Complete horseshoe crab epibiota project and organize findings into a comprehensive guide.
- Enter and analyze scientific data within online and desktop databases.
- Perform literature reviews relevant to assigned projects.
- Assist with on-going coastal research projects: soil microbiome sampling, green bulkhead sampling, soundscape ecology monitoring, and other projects as needed.
- Assist with on-going estuarine research projects: marsh vegetation monitoring, aquatic invasive species monitoring, marsh bird surveys, avian nest analysis, and other projects as needed.
- Assist with related education and stewardship events as appropriate.
- Present completed project to staff, and potentially professionals within the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.
- Other duties as assigned, based on organizational needs.

Job Requirements:

Applicants must have education, training and/or experience demonstrating competence in each of the following areas:

- Must be a current college student or recent college graduate.
- Knowledge of scientific research methods.
- Ability to spend long days in the field, sometimes in inclement weather, and during early mornings and late evenings (possibly weekends).
- Ability to work on small boats and with soft estuarine sediments (mud).
- Strong writing and research skills.
- Ability to communicate effectively.
- Detail-oriented, focused, and punctual.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in a team.

Preference may be given to applicants with a valid driver's license (not suspended, revoked or canceled, or disqualified from driving).



Schedule:

- The intern must be able to manage multiple projects at once in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment, and be able to work occasional evenings and weekends to support some events and projects.
- Office Location: the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve – St Jones Reserve, 818 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Some workdays will be in the field.
- The position is flexible as to start date and is for a maximum 12-week term.
- The position will not exceed 37.5 hours per week.
- Casual/Seasonal Employees are not eligible for state plan benefits.

Condition of Hire:

Applicants must be legally authorized to work in the United States. DNREC does not provide sponsorship for holders of H-1 B Visas.

Applicants must be legally authorized to work in the United States. The State of Delaware Executive Branch participates in the Federal E-Verify system where the State will provide the federal government with each new hires Form I-9 information to confirm that you are authorized to work in the U.S. For more information refer to our job seeker resources.

Selection Process:

The application and supplemental questionnaire are evaluated based upon a rating of your education, training and experience as they relate to the job requirements of the position. It is essential that you provide complete and accurate information on your application and the supplemental questionnaire to include dates of employment, job title and job duties. For education and training, list name of educational provider, training course titles and summary of course content. Narrative information supplied in response to the questions must be supported by the information supplied on the application including your employment, education and training history as it relates to the job requirements.

Once you have submitted your application, all future correspondence related to your application will be sent via email. Please keep your contact information current.



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE 19901
302-739-9000
dnrec.delaware.gov

Accommodations:

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities in all phases of the application and employment process. To request an auxiliary aid or service, call 302-739-5458. TDD users should call the Delaware Relay Service Number 800-232-5460 for assistance.

The State of Delaware is an Equal Opportunity employer and values a diverse workforce. We strongly encourage and seek out a workforce representative of Delaware including race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.