



Water Quality Specialist Intern

Type of Recruitment: Casual Seasonal (Summer Intern)

Pay: \$18.50 per hour

Agency: DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship / Watershed Assessment Branch

Employment Term: Full-time / 12 Weeks

Location(s): 285 Beiser Blvd, Ste 102, Dover, DE 19904

Introduction

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Division of Watershed Stewardship uses a comprehensive array of watershed-based programs to manage and protect the State's natural resources. Within this Division, the Watershed Assessment Branch oversees programs and initiatives related to water quality monitoring, assessment, and shellfish management. This internship will support the Watershed Assessment Branch in its mission to effectively create alternate recreational water criteria for sites throughout the State. Sample sites may include ponds, bays, and beaches. For more information, visit the website at <https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/assessment/recreational-water-monitoring/>. You can also visit the DNREC website at dnrec.delaware.gov and connect with @DelawareDNREC on Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly known as Twitter) or LinkedIn.

Summary Statement

DNREC is seeking a Water Quality Specialist Intern to assist the Recreational Water Program in its efforts to develop alternate recreational water criteria. With guidance from the Branch manager and program scientists, the intern will be educated on the current recreational water criteria and reasoning for the need to develop alternate criteria. Additional guidance on the process and

methodology needed to develop alternate criteria will be provided throughout the duration of the internship. The intern may also assist with additional tasks, as needed, within the Watershed Assessment Branch and Watershed Assessment and Management Section. For a comprehensive overview of the work conducted by the Section, please visit:

<https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/assessment/>.

Through this internship with DNREC's Watershed Assessment Branch, Recreational Water Program, the successful intern will gain the following:

- Hands-on Experience – by providing practical, hands-on experience characterizing water quality within a watershed to determine future water quality standards.
- Skill Development – by providing a platform for developing and honing a wide range of skills, including field sampling, data collection, communication, problem-solving, and project management - valuable skills in both academic and professional settings.
- Networking Opportunities – by offering a chance to network with professionals in the water quality sampling/monitoring field. Building these connections can be instrumental in future career advancement and accessing job opportunities.
- Resume Enhancement – by interning with the Watershed Assessment Branch, one can enhance a resume as an internship demonstrates practical experience, and a willingness to learn and contribute to important initiatives.
- Understanding of Environmental Regulations – by gaining insight into environmental regulations and policies related to water quality monitoring and seeing first-hand how those regulations are applied in the field.
- Personal Growth – by providing hands-on opportunities, interns often face new challenges and responsibilities that can help them develop confidence, resilience, and adaptability.

Overall, interning with the Watershed Assessment Branch can be a rewarding experience, offering valuable skills, knowledge, and connections that can benefit interns, both personally and professionally.

Job Duties

- Follow documented methodology created by the Environmental Protection Agency to develop alternative recreational criteria for waters.
- Input/manage data inputs used for alternative recreational criteria develop.
- Compile data and reports into GIS maps.
- Perform geospatial analysis for watershed to understand pollution sources/impacts.
- Participate actively in professional development training sessions.
- Participate actively in program meetings as needed.

Job Requirements

Provide a cover letter along with a resume and application, detailing your interest in the internship and how it aligns with your career goals.

Applicants must have education, training and/or experience demonstrating competence in each of the following areas. Experience gained through school projects or unrelated employment will be considered.

- Must be a current college student or recent college graduate, preferably in environmental science, natural resources, Geographic Information Systems, or other related field.
- Six months' experience following scientific methods, directions, or instructions.
- Six months experience using ArcGIS Pro or ArcGIS online.
- Proficiency with the operation of mobile devices for data entry.
- Six months' experience using Microsoft Office products.

- Familiarity with project management, such as planning, implementing, managing, and projects to ensure objectives are met.
- Familiarity with water quality sampling.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work effectively in potentially hot and humid weather conditions.
- Ability to perform tasks that may involve bending, lifting, and carrying objects weighing up to 30 lbs.
- Ability to wade into natural waterbodies up to waist deep (small waves may be present at time of sampling).
- Regard for, and ability to follow, State and Department policies, particularly safety.

Additional Posting Information

- 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 with a regular schedule of 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, including a 30-minute lunch break. This position is eligible for Telework and Alternative Work Schedules according to the State of Delaware’s Alternative Work Arrangement Policy. Schedule will be established at the time of hire.
- The intern will primarily work at the office located at 285 Beiser Blvd, Ste 102, Dover DE, 19904.
- This position will have responsibilities which require travel throughout the State. The intern is responsible for transportation to the primary office location. The State of Delaware provides transportation services from the primary location to State agencies or other locations as needed.
- Casual/Seasonal Employees are not eligible for state plan benefits.

Condition of Hire

As a condition of hire, applicants must possess a valid driver's license (not suspended, revoked or canceled, or disqualified from driving).

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

The State of Delaware Executive Branch participates in the Federal E-Verify system. The State will provide the federal government with each new hire's Form I-9 information to confirm that they 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 education, training and experience as they relate to the job requirements of the position. It is essential that applicants provide complete and accurate information on their application and the supplemental questionnaire to include dates of employment, job title and job duties. For education and training, list the name of educational providers, training course titles and a summary of course content. Narrative information supplied in response to the questions must be supported by the information supplied on the application including employment, education and training history as it relates to the job requirements.

Once an application has been submitted, all future correspondence related to the application will be sent via email. Please keep contact information current.

Accommodation

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

2026 DNREC Internship Program

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.