

TITLE: IEC District Summer 2017 Intern

EMPLOYER: New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), Wannalancit Mills, 650 Suffolk Street, Suite 410, Lowell, MA 01854

LOCATION: Interstate Environmental Commission offices in Manhattan, laboratory on Staten Island, and Port Washington, New York

BACKGROUND: NEIWPCC's IEC District comprehensively addresses water quality issues and priorities in the IEC jurisdictional waters in the tri-state area (NY, NJ, and CT). IEC's jurisdictional waters were established by compact in 1936, which also established IEC as an interstate organization responsible for protecting the water and air of its jurisdictional area.

The New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission serves as a forum for interstate communication and coordination on water related pollution control efforts among all the New England States and New York State.

In May 2012, NEIWPCC entered into an agreement with the IEC District to assist their three compact members (NY, NJ, and CT) in meeting their most pressing water resource, quality, and wastewater treatment concerns, both within and across state boundaries. NEIWPCC is working with the IEC District in meeting their diverse needs by providing fiduciary responsibility, staff and technical assistance, analysis and support for a broad array of water resource areas.

JOB SUMMARY: Assist with field, laboratory, and office work associated with its water quality monitoring activities in the IEC District Tri-State area. Activities are generally water quality oriented, but can cover a wide range of environmental issues, according to program needs. Serve as staff support, clearinghouse for information, and provide support to staff organizing workgroups and meetings on those issues.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assist IEC District staff with water quality monitoring surveys in western Long Island Sound and upper East River. Tasks associated with this project may include:

- Participating in boat-based surveys and utilize portable monitoring equipment to collect field measurements and ambient water samples.
- Assisting with the preservation and transport of samples, and processing of samples for shipment, as required.
- Assisting with laboratory analyses of water samples in accordance with established procedures and methods.
- Assisting with laboratory preparation of bottles, coolers, equipment, and quality control activities, as necessary.
- Additional fieldwork, laboratory analyses, and office work, as necessary.

Support IEC's other monitoring program projects related to ambient water quality, short-notice sampling, citizen science, and other projects, including:

- Participate in pathogen trackdown work sampling surveys involving wading and sampling of outfalls along the lower Passaic River.
- Participate in and support IEC's volunteer water quality monitoring program in near-shore areas in the IEC District.
- Collect ambient water samples and assist with data collection and recording of field measurements, chain of custody data.
- Assist with the preservation and transport of samples, as required.

Assist with IEC's inspection program related to municipal discharges, industrial discharges, pump stations, and dry-weather CSO and MS4 discharges, including:

- Pre-inspection tasks, including equipment calibration and maintenance, sterilization and preparation of bottles, coolers and sampling equipment.
- Participating in inspections at wastewater treatment plants and other industrial/municipal facilities, pump stations, and ORI sites, including sampling and analysis in the field as scheduled by Senior Manager.
- Performing sampling analysis and bench work in the laboratory as needed.
- Performing routine laboratory quality control activities and housekeeping.

Assist with the production and organization of documents and materials related to IEC's projects for dissemination to stakeholders and the public, including:

- Project summaries, data summaries, presentations, website, and printed newsletter updates.
- Meeting materials
- Organization of IEC's historical reports

EDUCATION: Minimum of 3 years towards a Bachelor's Degree in environmental science, biology, or closely related field.

QUALIFICATIONS: Ideal applicants will be highly motivated, detail-oriented, and flexible with a willingness to work in office, laboratory, and field settings.

Required:

- Strong interest in environmental issues and desire to learn
- Attention to detail
- Desire and ability to work outside under a variety of environmental conditions.
- Ability to follow directions and guidelines outlined in IEC District's SOP's and Health and Safety Manual
- Strong writing skills
- Strong computer skills
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Valid driver's license, private means of transportation, and willingness to transport ambient water samples and sampling equipment when necessary
- Experience driving in and around the tri-state area (NY, CT, and NJ)
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds

Desired:

- Prior field and laboratory experience
- Experience with MS Access and Excel, GIS software, and website maintenance

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This is a paid position; it is estimated that the position will require 37.5 hours per week. The approximate start date is June 1, 2017 with an estimated end date of September 30, 2017. Benefits are not provided with the exception of Social Security, unemployment and workers' compensation insurance. Duties will occur at multiple workplaces including the NEIWPC IEC District Laboratory located in Staten Island, NY and boat surveys departing from Port Washington, NY.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS: Fieldwork begins in the early morning and occurs in all weather including heat, sun, and rain, with little to no shelter. Some surveys require working as long as 6 hours on a sampling vessel without access to amenities.

Requirements

A valid driver's license and access to own transportation required.