

TITLE: Hudson River Stewardship Seasonal Internship

EMPLOYER: NEIWPCC, Wannalancit Mills, 650 Suffolk Street, Suite 410, Lowell, MA 01854

LOCATION: Ogden and Ruth Livingston Mills State Park, Staatsburg, NY.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: NEIWPCC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. We engage and convene water quality professionals and other interested parties from New England and New York to collaborate on water, wastewater, and environmental science challenges across the regions, ecosystems, and areas of expertise.

This NEIWPCC position partners with the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve (HRNERR). HRNERR was established in 1982 when New York State and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration designated four Hudson River Reserve sites. The programs were undertaken to protect and improve the natural and human resources of the Hudson River Basin. Partners in the program include the NYSDEC Marine Resources, NOAA, NEIWPCC and other federal, state, and local agencies.

JOB SUMMARY: The seasonal internship will provide support to the HRNERR Stewardship team in the field and in the office. The intern will assist in assessing, protecting, managing, and restoring Hudson River Estuary habitats, including shorelines, tidal wetlands, and submerged aquatic vegetation beds. The duties and responsibilities listed below will be delegated with the goal of developing the intern's skillsets and knowledge to provide a valuable experience. For all tasks, ample training will be provided, and the work will be performed alongside full-time staff.

Duties will be performed in office and field settings. Position requires frequent day trips throughout the Hudson River Estuary, occasionally working under adverse conditions in outdoor settings. The individual must be able to swim and lift up to 50 lbs. Evening and weekend work may be required.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Implementation, monitoring, and adaptive management of habitat restoration and enhancement projects.
- Invasive species monitoring and management.
- Assessment and mapping of reserve habitats and natural resources.
- Support water quality, sediment, vegetation, fish, and wildlife monitoring in tidal wetland, shoreline, and shallow water habitats.
- Assistance with topographic and bathymetric mapping using RTK GPS.
- Monitoring and care of greenhouse and nursery plants.
- Data entry and analysis.
- Volunteer outreach and coordination.
- Development of stewardship content and updates for reserve website.
- Assist other reserve programs (Education, Research, and Collaboration), as needed.
- Other duties, as assigned.

SUPERVISORY CONTROLS: Incumbent operates under the general supervision of the HRNERR Stewardship Coordinator, who provides instruction on new work, guidance and review of completed work to assure accuracy and adherence to established policy and requirements. The incumbent independently performs tasks in an efficient and effective manner, using good judgment.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A valid driver's license and access to own transportation required.
- Ability to swim and lift up to 50 lbs.
- This is an in-person position, requiring the intern to report to the office or assigned work location for all scheduled hours. This position is not eligible for telework.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: A biology, ecology, natural resources management, or environmental science major with at least two years of college, or a recent graduate with a Bachelor's degree. Applicants studying a related field will also be considered.

Special Knowledge and Skills

- Interest in responsible management of upland and coastal resources and applying the best available science to maintain and restore healthy, productive, and resilient ecosystems.
- Ability to stay positive while accomplishing physically demanding work in challenging environmental conditions.
- Familiarity with the flora, fauna, and habitats of the Hudson River Valley.
- Ability to carefully follow rigorous sampling procedures.
- Previous research experience.
- Comfortable with navigating using GPS and maps.
- Ability to follow field safety protocols.
- Familiarity with boater safety and operation of canoes and kayaks.
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team.
- Strong problem-solving, analytical, and organizational skills.
- Experience utilizing Microsoft Office including Word, Outlook, and Excel.

Personal Characteristics

- Naturally prone to action with a focus toward continuous improvement and is committed to contributing to the overall success of NEIWPCO and our partners.
- Approachable and diplomatic in all interactions.
- Able to manage change and articulate the "value case" for it.
- A team player who is inclusive and willing to help others.
- Dependable and capable of fostering trust.
- Accepts responsibility and is accountable for results.
- Ability to write concisely to express thoughts clearly and to develop ideas in logical sequence.
- Ability to exercise discretion in handling confidential information.
- Excellent organizational skills and the ability to prioritize key deliverables.

SALARY: Paid hourly, rate dependent upon level of experience and qualifications.

BENEFITS: Benefits are not provided, except for social security, workers compensation, unemployment insurance, and the elective deferral (employee contribution) portion of the 403(b)-retirement plan. NEIWPC is committed to the professional development of our employees.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This is a seasonal position based out of NYSDEC's Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve in Staatsburg, NY. The position may also work part-time out of office space at the Stony Kill Farm Environmental Education Center in Wappingers Falls, NY. Position will not exceed 1,000 hours; incumbent will be expected to work 37.5 hours per week, with some flexibility. Position anticipated to begin in May and to extend through November. This position requires the incumbent to work according to a schedule arranged with their supervisor.