

SAMPLE INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION – NOT CURRENTLY OPEN – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Water Quality Specialist Internship Metro/MERC

Purpose and goals of position:

To acquire basic working knowledge of limnological study of a eutrophic lake. To gain field experience in environmental sampling and analytical techniques.

Intern duties and responsibilities:

To collect in situ data (weekly) using Hydrolab and other field instruments, collect water samples bi-weekly and submit to DEQ for analysis. Aggregate newly-acquired and historical water quality data and analyze for trends (oversight provided), monitor and sample algal populations, interpret results (post warnings of toxic blue green algae blooms, if occurring), conduct two aquatic macrophyte surveys. Provide outreach for lakeshore owners and park customers.

Required qualifications and education:

Two years college level education/experience in biology, botany, ecology, limnology, natural resources management, environmental science or closely related field; or any combination of education and experience that provides the applicant with the knowledge, skills and abilities required performing the job.

Required knowledge, skills and abilities:

- Knowledge of basic principles of college-level biology.
- Ability to operate a motorized boat in deep water (greater than 25 feet).
- Working knowledge of electronic spreadsheet or databases.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Ability and willingness to work outside for several hours each shift in all weather conditions.
- Ability to work flexible hours.
- Must provide own transportation (re-imbursable) to the various work sites.