

TITLE: IEC Summer 2019 Intern

EMPLOYER: Interstate Environmental Commission (IEC), 2800 Victory Boulevard, Building 6S, Room 106, Staten Island, New York, 10314

LOCATION: Interstate Environmental Commission laboratory on Staten Island, and early morning boat surveys in western Long Island Sound which depart from Port Washington, New York.

BACKGROUND: The Interstate Environmental Commission 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.

JOB SUMMARY: Assist with field, laboratory, and office work associated with its water quality monitoring activities in IEC's District (tri-state area). Activities are generally water quality oriented, but can cover a wide range of environmental issues, according to program needs.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assist IEC staff with water quality monitoring surveys in western Long Island Sound and upper East River. Tasks associated with this project will 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 the filtration and processing of samples for shipment, as required.
- Assist with laboratory analyses of water samples in accordance with established procedures and methods.
- Assist with laboratory preparation of bottles, coolers, equipment, and quality control activities, as necessary.
Additional fieldwork, laboratory analyses, data entry, report generation and office work, as necessary.

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

- Participate in and support IEC's volunteer pathogen 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 and industrial dischargers, 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, including sampling and analysis in the field as scheduled by Executive Director.
- 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. Bachelor's degree preferred.

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, on a boat, under a variety of environmental conditions.
- Ability to follow directions and guidelines outlined in IEC's SOP's, Project Plans and other documents
- Strong communication skills
- Strong computer skills
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team; quick learner
- 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
- Prior experience with multi-parameter sondes, specifically YSI EXO1, YSI ProDSS, HOBO, Star-Oddi and associated software
- Experience with MS Access and Excel, ArcGIS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This is a paid position; it is estimated that the position will require 30 hours (4 days per week). The approximate start date is August 1, 2019 (or sooner) with an estimated end date of December 31st, 2019. This position does not include benefits. Duties will occur at multiple workplaces including the IEC's Laboratory located in Staten Island, NY and boat surveys departing from Port Washington, NY.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS: Fieldwork begins in the early morning (5:00-5:30am) 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.