Environmental Studies Internships

Chicago

● **Nature Center Program Coordinator**
  - Emily Oaks Nature Center
  - Salary: $36,670–$44,719 (DOE)
  - Duties: The Program Coordinator is responsible for assisting the Center Manager with daily Nature Center programming and operations. Specific responsibilities include initiating, developing, coordinating and leading tot, early teen and family activities and programs, including trail packs and GPS courses. Other duties include supervising the Little Earth Scouts day camp and assisting with Outdoor Challenge Camp. This position is responsible for developing and leading programs in keeping with earth education guidelines, principles of interpretation and the overall Nature Center programming philosophy. Other programming duties include developing and leading school-age programming (school, scout and birthday party activities), children’s classes, adult programming and Nature Center special events. This position assists those calling or visiting the Nature Center and serves as a customer service assistant as needed, answering phones; talking with walk-in visitors; handling program registrations, sales and rental reservations; and performing other duties as assigned. Hours for this position vary and include weekday, evening and weekend hours, depending on the programming needs of the Nature Center.

● **Communication/Public Outreach**
  - Biodiversity Project
  - Biodiversity Project (www.biodiversityproject.org) seeks a hard-working intern interested in gaining firsthand communications and media experience while working in a well-established environmental communications nonprofit. The intern will primarily work on communications and media projects related to our work with Chicago Wilderness, a regional alliance of 250 conservation organizations, public agencies and corporations focused on preserving nature and enriching life, through four main focus areas:
    - Green Infrastructure
    - Leave No Child Inside
    - Restore Nature
    - Climate Action
  - This position requires a commitment of 15-20 hours per week in our office, ideally beginning September 10 and ending December 17, 2012. Schedule is flexible.
  - Specific duties follow.
    - Chicago Wilderness Communications Responsibilities
      - Research and write articles for newsletters, websites and press releases
      - Update blogs and social media, including Facebook and Twitter
      - Write web content and make edits to website
      - Track media hits
    - Typical Other Work
      - Research and report on current public opinion data
      - Produce first drafts of print materials
      - Assist with quarterly newsletter distribution
      - Add events to online event calendars and assist with mailings
      - Assist with writing and material distribution for our Rock River Stormwater Group project
      - Maintain openness and flexibility, accepting new projects as needed

● **Seasonal Restoration Technician**
  - Great River Greening
  - Main Function: Implement ecologically based management plans, including restoration of ecological systems and exotic species removal.
  - Responsibilities:
    - Perform restoration site preparation, exotic species removal, native seed collection and processing.
    - Maintain garage, equipment, and other supplies in addition to other field related tasks as needed.
    - Represent Great River Greening when interacting with public and private landowners.
**CIMBY Stewardship Coordinator**
- Chicago Public Schools
- Salary: $15/hour
- In collaboration with BOLD Chicago Institute and The Field Museum, Chicago Public Schools delivers Calumet Is My Back Yard (CIMBY), a 13-year old service-learning and student leadership development project working with 15 schools on the southeast side of Chicago. Our mission through CIMBY is to develop the next generation of environmental leaders. CIMBY engages teachers and students in hands-on environmental education in the classroom and in natural sites throughout the Lake Calumet region. We are currently seeking a part-time Stewardship Coordinator to plan and implement ecological restoration projects with high school students and teachers.
  - **Stewardship Tasks**
    - 1. Plan 30-35 stewardship experiences for 8-9 schools.
    - 2. Provide staff leadership during 3-hour stewardship experiences.
    - 3. Organize tools, plants, seeds, gloves, boots, and kits for stewardship.
    - 4. Gather and collect data from stewardship events.
    - 5. Schedule and communicate with teachers regarding events.
  - **School Visits**
    - 1. Conduct up to 3 classroom visits per school per year.
    - 3. Support project development
    - 4. Prepare students for stewardship visits.

**Communication Internship**
- Beyond Green
  - Beyond Green is a Chicago based sustainability consulting firm providing organizations in the food service industry and with in-house dining services – e.g. schools, cultural institutions, food service companies - with sustainable solutions, implementation strategies, and the expertise to adopt sustainable operations. For a comprehensive overview of our service offerings please reference our website (http://beyondgreenpartners.com/).
  - We are looking for a college student or recent graduate majoring in journalism or communication for a 3 month unpaid internship with a minimum commitment of 15 hours per week of work in office.
  - Intern’s Responsibilities:
    - Assist in the design and implementation of our social media and communication plan.
    - Be our point of contact for journalists and authors in the field of food service and sustainability.
    - Contact journalists and build long-lasting relationships for our company.
    - Build and maintain a comprehensive database with the research results and contacts made.
    - Assist in contacting organizations in the food service industry, environmental sustainability field, and sustainable food field over the internet and social media platforms in order to build long-lasting relationship between them and Beyond Green.
    - Write press releases featuring company’s work.
    - Maintain company’s blog.
    - Maintain company’s social media presence.
    - Research, apply for speaking engagement for company's CEO for conferences in the U.S.
    - Assist company’s staff with potential clients research and database building.
    - Work in close collaboration with our CEO and staff in order to adhere to our objectives.

**Hydrologist**
- Aerotek
  - Complete numerical groundwater models for various regions and developments
  - Gather data and complete analysis and numerical modeling
  - Attend project meetings and coordinate with others on team

**Urban Waters Organizer**
- Friends of the Chicago River
- Salary: $14/hour
- Summary: Friends of the Chicago River is seeking a goal-driven, passionate community organizer to work on a grant funded project organizing communities in the Calumet region around watershed-based issues.
Position Overview: This is a part-time (maximum 20 hours per week) temporary position beginning August, 2012 through October 31, 2012. The urban waters organizer will primarily assist the community relations developer in expanding the Chicago River Eco Warrior (CREW) program by engaging the community in stewardship work that improves water quality, habitat and access; educating watershed residents on best management practices (BMPs) beyond the river’s edge; and increasing community support and action with regard to water quality and other river-related policy issues.

Key responsibilities include:
- Mobilize a network of community organizations to participate in and promote a series of workshops and trainings related to water quality and other river-related policy issues
- Foster relations with allied organizations and individuals, and develop activist leadership in the Calumet region
- Support the development of materials to advance program strategies and tactics
- Serve as an organizational spokesperson
- Participate in organization-wide planning, fundraising, and program activities

**ejobs.org**
- Midwest laboratories and companies (by state): links to jobs pages of company Web sites, including environmental science, engineering, consulting, green/eco, conservation, wildlife, etc.
- Midwest non-profit organizations (by state): links to jobs pages of non-profit organization Web sites, including colleges and universities, museums, zoos, nature and environmental education centers, etc
- Midwest Government Agencies (by state): links to jobs pages of Iowa state and local government Web sites, including environmental science, police/law enforcement, library, teaching, etc.

**Iowa**
- **Environment Iowa**
  - Fellowship
    - Salary: ~$24,000/year
    - Our Fellowship Program is a two-year immersion in the nuts and bolts of environmental activism, organizing, advocacy and the type of organization-building necessary for the long haul.
    - Learn by doing: Working with our senior staff, you’ll plan and run grassroots campaigns, lobby lawmakers, publish op-eds, set up and speak at news conferences, organize town hall meetings, run citizen outreach campaigns, identify new members, raise money, recruit and manage staff and much more.

- **Environmental Advocacy Positions**
  - Environment Iowa and Environment America advocates are experts in combining research, public education, coalition-building, direct persuasion and grassroots organizing to achieve real and lasting progress for our environment. Our advocates across the country have helped pass Clean Cars programs in 13 states, win an initiative to build a Million Solar Roofs in California, and protect the Great Lakes from toxic mercury pollution. Environment America is also hiring experienced communications, development, legal, administrative and creative staff.

- **Environmental Campaign Staff**
  - Across the country, our environment faces some tough challenges. But we know what we need to win-citizen support and grassroots action. That’s why we’ve partnered with the Fund for the Public Interest to hire college students, graduates, and activists across the state to go out into communities to talk with citizens about the issues, raise money, and build membership for Environment Iowa. Staff also have the opportunity to work with the media, build coalitions and mobilize activists. Similar positions are available in more than 50 offices across the country.

**iowa.greenjobs.net**
- environmental job listings in Iowa divided by category

**Diversity Farms, Inc.**
- A private natural resource consulting and management business, the business works with private landowners, business, organizations, and agencies to enhance native prairie, woodlands and wetlands. The business is located in southern Carroll County, near Dedham, Iowa. Intern Duties would be to help with prairie burns,
planting prairie seed, collecting prairie seed, cleaning prairie seed, removal of alien weeds from prairie areas, and removal of woody species from prairies. Educational opportunities would be to learn the technique and function of prescribed burns, prairie and weed species identification, prairie restoration and reconstruction techniques, exotic weed and woody species control techniques, and the business of land management, prairie restoration, and prairie seed sales.

- **Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation**
  - (INHF) is looking for bright, talented, college students seeking a paid summer internship that offers experience maintaining and restoring natural landscapes all across Iowa!
  - INHF is a nonprofit conservation organization that protects Iowa's land, water and wildlife "for those who follow." Since our founding in 1979, INHF has protected more than 100,000 acres throughout the state. Many of these sites are now popular state and county parks, nature trails and wildlife areas. By protecting Iowa's land, INHF protects our wildlife habitat, water quality, recreational opportunities and quality of life.

- **Iowa Valley RC&D**
  - Summer Internship: Project Assistant.
  - This position is a seasonal position.
  - Iowa Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) is a not-for-profit 501 (C) (3) corporation directed by volunteer board members. Our office is located in Amana, IA and serves the counties of; Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Linn, Poweshiek, and Tama.
  - Iowa Valley RC&D assists people protect and develop their economic, natural, and social resources in ways that improve their areas’ economies, environment, and quality of life. The Iowa Valley RC&D provides avenues for people to plan and implement projects that will make their communities better places to live. Several important and resume building internship opportunities exist with our current projects.

  - Roadside Remnant Tour, Guidebook Series, and Rare Plants Poster Projects
    - The Roadside Remnant Tour project is part of an educational program focused on the celebration of the cultural and natural heritage of plants native to the six county areas of Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Linn, Poweshiek and Tama. The goal of this project is to actively inform the traveling public, so that roadsides may be equated with the preservation of our tall grass prairie heritage. The Guidebooks series includes the development of a Sportsman’s, Paddlers’, and Birders’ Guides of the Iowa and Cedar Valley region. The goal of the guidebook series is to increase awareness of the unique natural, historic, and cultural areas, as well as the many recreational, hunting, fishing, birding and eco-tourism opportunities of the region.

  - Job duties associated with all aspects of the implementation of these projects include but are not limited to:
    - Organization and transcription of written roadside inventories into digital format.
    - Assistance with web design and updating website.
    - Development of a database of eco-businesses.
    - Work with ArcGIS to populate databases.
    - Photography.
    - Field verification of remnants and plantings.
    - Research.
    - Limited travel.
    - A working knowledge of ArcGIS and plants is a must for these projects.

- **The Nature Conservancy of Iowa**

- **Pollution Prevention Intern Program**
  - The DNR matches students with specific projects identified by Iowa businesses, institutions, or agencies, based on each student's coursework performance, experience, and technical skills.
  - After one week of training, the intern serves on site at the host facility, addressing the targeted project as a team member. Technical advisers with the program provide the interns with the resources, tools and technical guidance they need to excel in their project. While on-site the intern reports to a company supervisor, who provides daily supervision, company resources, and ensures company support of the project and implementation. (Students are not trained in or qualified to assess regulatory compliance issues.)
  - The intern assesses the company's processes to determine waste streams, evaluates options for waste reduction, works with management and employees to determine the feasibility of various options, and develops cost
comparisons. In most cases the intern initiates implementation of feasible alternatives to the process. After writing a final report documenting results and recommendations, the intern presents this information to the host company and writes a case summary of his or her project.

- What types of projects are implemented?
  - Here are just a few examples of project areas:
    - Lighting retrofits
    - Boiler efficiency
    - Heating, ventilation and cooling efficiency
    - Optimization of a compressed air system
    - Water conservation and wastewater treatment
    - Interior and exterior thermographic analysis
    - Solid waste generation and handling
    - Process improvements
    - Hazardous chemical analysis and replacement

**Minnesota**

- **District Watershed Technician/Inspector**
  - Organization: Rice Creek Watershed District
  - Compensation: $34,400 - $51,600 annually, depending on qualifications and experience.
  - Hours: Full time, 40 hours per week
  - Position Objectives: Ensure implementation of and provide assistance in the District's Public drainage inspection program, lakes/stream management program and ensure inspection of District's permitted projects

- **Program Development Intern (Focus: Zero-waste events and commercial composting) - unpaid**
  - Organization: Eureka Recycling
  - Position description:
    - Hours: 12-15 hours per week, flexible. Occasional evening and weekend hours required.
    - Compensation: Unpaid, bus passes available.
    - Background: Eureka Recycling is the only organization in Minnesota that specializes in zero waste. The organization's services, programs, and policy work present solutions to the social, environmental, and health problems caused by wasting. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, based in the Twin Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, Eureka Recycling's mission is to demonstrate that waste is preventable, not inevitable. Because this mission is realized by any person or group that chooses to prevent waste, Eureka Recycling provides opportunities for everyone to experience firsthand that waste can be prevented.
    - Eureka Recycling is seeking a self-motivated, flexible, and organized individual to support the research and development of our zero-waste initiatives. This position would include hands on activities to support our zero-waste event program as well as research for this and other zero-waste programs and initiatives. This intern will see first hand how Eureka Recycling works to achieve its mission to reduce waste through entrepreneurial projects that engage the community. This internship is ideal for someone who is interested hands on-work as well as assisting in research and data analysis that supports a waste free tomorrow.
    - Description: The Program Development Intern will support the zero-waste event program and other zero-waste and composting programs. This will include hands on labor for events including organizing equipment and working at the Summit Backyard Bash, Saint Paul Classic Bike Tour, and other community events that are partnering with Eureka Recycling to work towards zero waste. Work may also participating in waste sorts to identify potential diversion, data analysis of ours and other's findings and work on research to support the event program and other projects of Eureka Recycling.
  - Responsibilities
    1. Organize, track, and prepare equipment used at events.
    2. Assist in event setup and cleanup, operations, and work with volunteers at events.
    3. Assist in event planning including outreach towards event vendors and exhibitors.
    4. Support developing the zero-waste event program.
    5. Compile and organize detailed lists of regional events.
    6. Research national and local zero waste event programs.
    7. Organize and analyze data gathered from events.
8. Assist in waste sorts and other tasks as needed to support program development
9. Perform general office duties (data entry, filing, mailings, photocopying, etc.).
10. Assist with research and special projects as assigned.

Websites with Maintained Job and Internship Listings

The Student Conservation Association
The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is America’s conservation corps. Members protect and restore national parks, marine sanctuaries, cultural landmarks and community green spaces in all 50 states.

Conservation Internships
For college and graduate students, as well as other qualified individuals, SCA internships provide the opportunity to learn from resource management professionals, gain tangible skills and experience, and make a substantial contribution to our natural and cultural treasures. SCA Internships are available throughout the year, in all conservation disciplines, and range in length from 12 to 52 weeks. All positions are expense-paid and most offer insurance and education awards. Search internship opportunities.

Conservation Corps
In this SCA program, college and graduate students and other qualified participants address specific, urgent conservation challenges. Projects may include mitigating wildland fire risks, eradicating invasive plants while protecting native species, restoring desert lands scarred by off-road vehicles, or providing environmental education in community classrooms. SCA Corps programs, some of which are offered in cooperation with AmeriCorps, run for up to 10 months, and members often share a communal residence. Learn more about Conservation Corps programs.

Environmental Jobs in Environmental Career Opportunities
A “green jobs” warehouse with hundreds of listings for jobs across the country.

American Geological Institute (GeoScience & Public Policy Internships)
Offering summer and semester long internships, the American Geoscience Institution provides opportunities to learn more about geoscience as well as public policy regarding Washington’s role in environmental issues. Interns will gain firsthand experience with the legislature surrounding sustainability and learn writing, presenting and research skills that can be used in any arena.

National Institutes of Health
Resource for additional job search tips and ideas. Includes internships, jobs and graduate study programs through the National Institute for Health.

The Environmental Careers Organization
Jobs and internships posted from all across the country. Includes a forum to post resume for potential employers.

Our Earth.org (http://www.ourearth.org/activism/)
Listings for jobs, internships and workshops across the country.

CampusAccess.com
Internship clearinghouse focused on cataloging internships available to college or nearly graduated students.

Chicagoland Environmental Network
Focused on areas surrounding Chicago, this website offers access to environmental internships ranging from community outreach, education and wildlife restoration.

iHipo - International Internships
US based and international environmental internship opportunities as well as resume and interview advice.
Global Vision (International Jobs & Internships)
US based and international environmental internship opportunities as well as resume and interview advice.

Ecological Society of America
Listings for jobs, internships and workshops across the country.

Department of Transportation (U.S.)
Listings for jobs, internships and workshops across the country.