

Riverways Field Technician and Outreach Specialist Position (FT with benefits)

Job description

The field technician and outreach specialist will contribute to ongoing projects collecting water samples to assess boating safety in the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers and tidal tributaries in Philadelphia. The technician will perform sampling in collaboration with Riverways partner organizations and other project partners. They will make sure that samples arrive to laboratories in required timeframes for analysis and perform some laboratory processing as well. This is a full-time position, from April 2023 through September 2023, with potential for extension based on funding. Outreach will involve working with Riverways' partners Urban Promise, The Center for Aquatic Sciences, Bartram's Garden and others to offer programming about boating, watershed health, and related topics to a range of audiences including schools, the public, and high school interns.

Duties

- Collect water samples from 9-11 sites weekly, perform visual habitat assessments
- Coordinate with Monitoring Coordinator, project partners and their educational programs to sample collaboratively, process samples, and enter data
- Perform sterile sampling, plating and counting of E. coli on 3M Petrifilm
- Ensure that sampling and relevant habitat analyses are completed each week, and step in to assist any partners needing help
- Drive between sites to collect samples, and deliver samples to laboratory within required timeframe
- Enter data into database
- Assist with training for partners and program participants
- Provide support in outreach to partner youth programs, including Riverways Youth Council
- Help develop and offer experiential learning program with Project Director Dr. Stefanie Kroll
- Help initiate adult volunteer sampling and outreach program

Required qualifications

- Driver's license in good standing, access to a vehicle (if no vehicle access, please apply and we will seek a solution)
- High school degree or higher
- Some knowledge of standard water quality or environmental sampling procedures
- Interest in environmental science, outreach and advocacy
- Organized, using calendars and other tools to coordinate among multiple groups and schedules
- Comfortable kayaking and wading in rivers and streams of Philadelphia and Camden (Kayak training and refresher training will be provided)

Additional desired qualifications

- Fluency with Microsoft Office, Google Drive and related applications
- Bachelor's degree in environmental science, biology, or related field
- Experience using water quality probes, sterile sampling and sample plating, bacterial counts, data entry and minor interpretation
- Experience working with high school aged youth in an outdoor education setting

Riverways is especially interested in hiring community members from Philadelphia and Camden who represent historically excluded groups from science and outdoor recreation. The Riverways Collaborative of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia was developed as a coalition of organizations with boating and educational programs in Philadelphia and Camden. We care about improved water quality in the urban rivers of Philadelphia and New Jersey for everyone to access and enjoy safely. We are a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to involving diverse community members, professionals, agency representatives and other voices in our recreational and educational activities and all aspects of our work. We focus on environmental justice and community participation in our processes and programs. Our members include Bartram's Garden, Urban Promise, Center for Aquatic Sciences, Glen Foerd on the Delaware, Land Health Institute, and Independent Seaport Museum. Information can be found at Riverways.org.

How to apply: Email your resume and 3 references to Stefanie Kroll, Ph.D., at skrollenvironmentcommunity@gmail.com. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Contact Stefanie with any questions.

Target start date: May 2023.

Supervisor: Stefanie Kroll, Project Director.

Benefits: Riverways offers health, dental and vision insurance through our fiscal sponsor, CultureWorks Greater Philadelphia.

Salary Range: \$42,000-\$48,000

Anticipated Start Date: May 1, 2023

This is a grant funded position, with possible extensions.

Riverways.org