

Who we are:

The Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of our natural environment.

Our Department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environment that goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity and increased quality of life in Tennessee. We deliver on our mission through managing regulatory programs that maintain standards for air, water and soil quality while providing assistance to businesses and communities in areas ranging from recreation to waste management. We manage the state park system and programs to inventory, interpret and protect Tennessee's rich natural, historical, and archaeological heritage.

About the Division of Water Resources (DWR):

The Division Water Resources is responsible for managing, protecting, and enhancing the quality of the state's water resources for all Tennesseans through voluntary, regulatory, and educational programs. Division activities include establishment of water quality criteria; issuance of permits and certifications; evaluation of monitoring data; conducting inspections; management of financial assistance for infrastructure and oversight activities related to stream channel modification, wetland alterations, dredging, groundwater protection, wellhead protection, safe dams, septic systems, pretreatment, bio solids application, and storm water.



Internship Division of Water Resources Knoxville Environmental Field Office Knoxville, TN

Overview

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is excited to offer an outstanding opportunity for college students to have an internship with our Division of Water Resources in our Knoxville Environmental Field Office. Students will gain an understanding of how our agency works to protect and improve water quality in Tennessee. Internship candidates must be currently enrolled in a college or university focusing on a degree in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Geology; other related fields will be considered. Candidates must receive college credit for the internship experience.

Students will learn about conducting chemical and biological monitoring of local rivers/streams, understand guidelines for inspections of regulated facilities, and how our field team provides technical assistance to our multicounty customers to protect or improve water resources. Field work includes walking in uneven, muddy and steep terrain during wet, dry, hot and cold climatic conditions, flowing water of varying depth and velocity, and may include encounters with environmental hazards (poison ivy, insects, snakes, etc.). It will be a lot of fun and exercise!

Please note TDEC will observe appropriate Covid-19 guidelines during this internship.

Responsibilities

- Work directly with our field team in the environmental regulatory career field.
- Conduct data entry and data review related to water quality permits.
- Collect in-stream biological samples (aquatic macroinvertebrates) and conduct habitat assessments.
- Conduct water quality monitoring by in-stream water quality sampling at monitoring stations.
- Accompany field staff during permitting procedures and inspections of TN Construction General Permit and Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit sites.
- Learn how field equipment is calibrated and maintained.

To be considered for this unpaid internship, students need to submit their resume, cover letter, and information outlining college credit requirements to Deanna.Jones@tn.gov. Additional information regarding TDEC's internship requirements are highlighted on TDEC's website: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/about-tdec/employment-and-internships.html>

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State's policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person's race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.