

# Water Quality Program Intern

## June-August 2022

### Introduction and Job Description

Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) is looking for curious and driven individuals to intern with us during our busy Summer 2022 Season. A paragon of conservation efforts, LSM promotes lake stewardship through widespread citizen participation in the gathering and dissemination of credible scientific information pertaining to lake health. Each year, with the help of over 1,000 active volunteers, our staff is able to monitor and collect data on 500+ lakes across the state. For 26 years LSM has worked closely with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to ensure the standardization and validity of volunteer data. Join us in being a part of our efforts to maintain healthy lake communities. The opportunities offered through LSM to engage with staff, volunteers, partner organizations, and interns are waiting for you; apply today!



To assist in the operation of the water quality program, including, but not limited to: training of volunteers, preparation of volunteer documentation, operation of watercraft, outreach and logistics related to training events, photo documenting training events, entry of data, assisting in the operation and maintenance of water quality meters, Secchi discs, water core tubes, and other equipment related to water quality sampling, and assisting in the development of visualizations and guidance documents for outreach activities.

#### **What we are looking for in a candidate:**

- Interest in working with community (citizen) scientists that come from a range of age groups
- Knowledge in at least one area of ecological science, such as (but not limited to) microbiology, biogeochemistry, or hydrology
- Experience working with biologic or environmental data
- Experience working with geospatial data
- Experience or a passion for teaching others
- Ability to understand complex systems and convey important aspects of this to non-technical audiences
- Ability to work and communicate well with others; able to work independently, as well as part of a team
- Strong educational, interpersonal and communication skills
- Passionate about lake/water conservation and preservation
- Willingness to learn about and spend time on inland water, and on boats (kayaks, canoes, or motorized boats)
- Critical attention to detail and accuracy is absolutely essential!
- Access to transportation

#### **What you will gain from this experience:**

- Improved understanding of limnology, biogeochemical cycling, and cyanotoxicology
- Expansion and refinement of interpersonal and teaching skills
- Increased grasp of community science networks, development, and applications

- Equip interns with the skillset to educate and engage with multiple communities on lake health
- First hand experience and understanding of the important role the nonprofits play in advancing social and environmental benefit
- Gain experience in water-based activities (plant identification, kayaking, healthy lake indicators)

**Pay, hours, benefits and certifications:**

- Full time internship
- Access to a kayak, paddle and PFD for the summer (when not in programmatic use)
- Opportunity to participate in networking and social events through the Maine Career Catalyst program
- Travel across various parts of the state of Maine
- Opportunities to meet and network with experienced professionals in State government and partnering NGOs
- Opportunities to meet and work with some of Maine's most capable and dedicated volunteers
- Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification Certification
- Water Quality Certification
- This is an unpaid internship, but we encourage the applicant to apply for funding through their institution (we can offer resources if need be)

**APPLICATIONS DUE TUESDAY MARCH 15**

**APPLICATIONS WILL BE EVALUATED ON A ROLLING BASIS**

How to Apply: Please send along a PDF including your resume and letter of interest to [stewards@lakestewardsme.org](mailto:stewards@lakestewardsme.org) with the subject [last name] Water Quality Intern. We will follow up with time slots for interviews and if you have any questions please direct them to [topher@lakestewardsme.org](mailto:topher@lakestewardsme.org).