2024 Summer Science Internship Position Description

Each year the Great Pond Foundation (GPF) engages interns to assist with the Ecological Monitoring Program and other initiatives related to maintaining and preserving healthy coastal ecosystems. GPF is committed to scientific data collection, much of which involves assessing water quality and biodiversity in Edgartown Great Pond and Chilmark Pond, as well as other similar coastal ponds on the island of Martha's Vineyard. In addition to the Water Quality Monitoring Program, interns will help with the Biodiversity Monitoring Program and the MV CYANO cyanobacteria monitoring program. The Summer Science Interns will spend 75% of their time in the field working directly with GPF scientists and staff to successfully implement these projects. Interns will also support occasional summer outreach activities hosted by GPF for stakeholders of all ages.

GPF will hire two individuals for the Summer Science Internships. In addition to their primary duties, each intern may pursue individual projects, such as seagrass monitoring, plankton species identification, historical data archiving, producing media for public outreach and education, and GIS mapping projects. Projects can be tailored based on individual interest and experience.

Ideal candidates should have an interest and enthusiasm for marine biology, environmental science, and science communication. Candidates must be capable of conducting repetitive tasks and spending long hours in the sun or inclement weather conditions, with field days starting just after sunrise. Ability to collect and record scientific data accurately is required. Familiarity with small boats and knowledge of New England coastal habitats and commonly found species is a plus. A typical week will be 30-35 hours, but occasionally up to 40 hours/week. Work is highly dependent on weather and total working hours may vary per week. Compensation is $16/hour. Preferred start-end dates are early June to mid-August, dates are flexible based on school schedules. Housing and transportation are not provided.

Preferred Skills and Qualifications
- Basic laboratory and data analysis skills (i.e., Excel)
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Self-motivated with the ability to work independently and with a team
- Adaptable, hardworking, willing to learn, and have attention to detail
- Comfortable working outside in all conditions
- Comfortable handling marine species such as fish and crabs
- Capable of lifting 50lbs

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, and three references with contact information as a single pdf to jobs@greatpondfoundation.org by 5pm on Wednesday, February 28th.