

Save Our Streams Summer Internship
****Reports to the Philippi WVDEP Office****
Requires occasional weekend or evening work.



Save Our Streams Program Description

WVDEP's Save Our Streams program provides training in a water quality monitoring protocol that evaluates stream health based on aquatic biodiversity, chemical analysis, and habitat evaluation. The mission of WV Save Our Streams (WVSOS) is to promote the conservation and restoration of our state's waters by providing an understanding of their ecological integrity. This mission is accomplished by conducting workshops and training volunteers in how to monitor their local wadeable streams and rivers. The presence or absence of indicator benthic macroinvertebrate species such as Ephemeroptera (mayflies), Plecoptera (stoneflies), and Trichoptera (caddisflies) provide clues to the relative ecological health of the stream. Following certification, volunteers conduct stream surveys with analysis of benthic macroinvertebrates, water chemistry, and habitat conditions. Volunteer monitoring and community science efforts provide essential contributions to our understanding and protection of watersheds throughout West Virginia, ensuring our waterways continue to provide recreational opportunities for our residents and visitors via fishing, boating, swimming and wildlife viewing.

Internship Duties & Responsibilities

The Save Our Streams Summer Intern will:

- Assist with preparation and tracking of workshop materials, inventory, and monitoring kits,
- Assist with the development of outreach materials, lessons, and activities,
- Assist with the delivery of training during water monitoring workshops,
- Take photo and video at training workshops to be shared with the WVDEP's Public Information Office for WVDEP's social media,
- Enter completed survey data into state and regional water quality databases,
- Assist with volunteer recruitment, tracking, and retention activities,
- Assist with program evaluation, such as participant surveys and polls.

Desired Educational Background/Interest Area

- Coursework in biology, chemistry, soil science, wildlife/fisheries, GIS, and/or environmental science OR education major with interest in teaching science
- Coursework in communication or English with strong writing and small group communication skills
- Coursework or interest community science efforts, outdoor recreation, inquiry-driven education

Knowledge, Skills, & Abilities

- Ability/desire to work outdoors in varied weather conditions (but not unsafe conditions),
- Ability/desire to work in wadeable streams and rivers,
- Ability/desire to travel to workshop locations around the state of West Virginia,
- Skilled in interpersonal and small group communication,
- Knowledge of stream ecology, or willingness to learn.



SOS Website:
go.wv.gov/SOS

Pay: \$12/Hour To apply: <https://intern.wv.gov>