



MARINE DEBRIS INTERNSHIP **Summer 2021 Job Description**

The **Marine Debris Intern** will help address environmental impacts from pollution. This full-time internship brings together interests in environmental education, science, public policy, and citizen action. The primary focus of this internship is to complete specific tasks for the Reduce Litter in the Delaware River project under the EENJ Grant. It will also include assistance with the Corporate Beach Sweeps (dependent on pandemic regulations), as well as programmatic support for Beach Sweeps and water quality programs. This intern will work most closely with the Watershed Program Coordinator and Staff Scientist.

Specific Responsibilities

Reduce Litter in the Delaware River project

Tasks related to this program are primarily field-based activities.

- Conduct Plastic Source Investigations (PSI) at target locations in the lower Delaware River and submit report
- Develop and field test online reporting form for inputting PSI data
- Assist with mapping of PSI data
- Assist with organizing and conducting cleanups at hot-spot locations along the Delaware
- Assist with outreach to local groups to recruit citizen science volunteers for further PSI work

Wrackline Assessment

- Conduct assessments of debris accumulation along the wrackline at designated locations in Sea Bright and Sandy Hook
- Compile data and produce a report summarizing findings from Summer 2021 and Summer 2020

Beach Sweeps

- Assist with management of Spring Beach Sweeps data (e.g., data entry, digital archiving)
- Assist with planning for the Fall Beach Sweeps, which may include supply inventory and preparation, and outreach to towns and Beach Captains

Corporate Sweeps (Tentative)

- Organize logistics of Corporate Beach Sweeps, including lunch order, transportation, refreshments, supply inventory, and scouting cleanup locations primarily at Sandy Hook
- Assist with setup and breakdown, welcoming volunteers, providing educational overviews as needed, running games/activities, engaging with volunteers, etc.
- Compile data and photos after each Sweep and share data report and photos with each corporate partner
- Create pre- and post-cleanup survey to gauge behavioral change in participants and to provide companies with insightful information
- Compile data for Corporate Beach Sweeps Annual Report, including pre- and post-survey data from participants
- Research and produce a report on corporate sustainability practices of recent corporate partners

Qualifications

- Pursuing degree in Life Sciences/Physical Sciences or other relevant field
- Comfortable conducting field work, possibly in adverse conditions (e.g., heat, rain)
- Experience with data entry, analysis and management
- Experience with producing professional reports
- Proficient in Excel and other MS products
- Familiarity with GIS a plus
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail

By the end of the internship, the Marine Debris Intern will have...

- Conducted and coordinated PSI programs in 4 target locations, and 6-12 wrackline assessments
- Created data forms, compiled data and written reports
- Conducted and coordinated Citizen Science programs
- Managed volunteers
- Reduced marine pollution
- Developed skills in community outreach and organization, project coordination, data management and analysis, public speaking and education, event coordination, research, and writing
- Tentative upon pandemic regulations, produced a main Corporate Beach Sweeps Report which is crucial to the continuation of the program and provides professional writing experience, as well as individual corporate reports, behavior surveys and report on corporate sustainability practices

General Program Coordination

- Represent COA in a positive, professional and friendly manner
- Maintain focus and message on pollution prevention
- Stay conversant and current on COA priorities and programs
- Assist with updating relevant COA materials, fact sheets, and write monthly newsletter articles
- Be flexible to help on any project at any time, as needed

Time and Location Requirements

The summer internship is a full-time position and is generally located at COA's office in Long Branch, NJ. However, this summer may be remote for desk work, and in-person for field activities. Protocols will adhere to all NJ and CDC guidelines, and COA's office status. **It is essential to the success of the program and the overall internship that the applicant lives within 50-miles of the Long Branch office.** No housing or transportation is provided. Official office hours are 9am to 5pm, Monday – Friday, and sometimes longer. Attendance at some evening and/or weekend meetings and/or events may be necessary.

Business casual attire is expected and can vary depending on activities. Monthly stipend and travel expenses (excluding commuting) are paid. College credit (arranged by the student with the university/college) is available. Start date is as early in May as possible and end date is as late in August as possible.

Interested applicants should demonstrate enthusiasm and basic knowledge of environmental issues, organizational and communication skills, creativity, and willingness to work hard, as well as live within close proximity to the COA office. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. **To apply, send a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and a list of 3 references with affiliations and contact information to: Projects@CleanOceanAction.org with "Marine Debris Internship_ YOUR NAME" as the subject line.**

About COA

Clean Ocean Action is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to protecting marine water quality in the New York Bight (those waters between Montauk Point, NY, and Cape May, NJ, and to the continental shelf). COA is a broad-based coalition of over 115 active boating, business, community, conservation, diving, environmental, fishing, religious, service, student, surfing, and women's groups. COA identifies sources of pollution and takes actions to stop them using research, education, and citizen action. For more information about COA visit www.cleanoceanaction.org.

COA is committed to providing an environment of mutual respect where equal employment opportunities are available to all applicants and crew members without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.