



## Perennial Internship Program – Summer 2026

### Internship Position Description

**Internship Title:** Water Quality Intern

**Internship Site:** Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, Colchester VT. Fieldwork will be conducted statewide.

Traveling to our fieldwork will require the intern to use their own vehicle. Our fieldwork is spread out over much of the state, and we try to use our work vehicle for as much of that travel as possible. However, there are times when it is necessary to use a personal vehicle. Any travel for the internship with a personal vehicle will be reimbursed at the IRS mileage rate, and travel time for fieldwork will be paid.

**Description:** Fitzgerald Environmental Associates (FEA) is a water resources consulting firm based in Colchester, Vermont. FEA offers technical consulting services in the applied water and geospatial sciences. FEA specializes in watershed and stream assessment and restoration, road erosion assessments and mitigation design, stormwater master planning, stormwater treatment system design and permitting, stormwater and streamflow monitoring and analysis, and geospatial mapping and modeling. FEA serves a diverse clientele of governmental, non-profit, and private sector entities; however, our primary focus is watershed assessment and planning at the municipal and regional level.

Water Quality Interns for Fitzgerald Environmental will assist with fieldwork for our existing projects throughout Vermont. Water Quality Interns will primarily work on the following project types in the summer of 2026:

- Assessment
  - Interns will conduct assessments of stream culverts and roads for our active assessment projects throughout the State.
- Water Quality Planning: Stormwater Master Plans and Lake Watershed Action Plans
  - Interns will assist with field data collection at identified water quality problem areas within the Towns and watersheds where FEA has active planning projects.
- River and Stormwater Design
  - Interns will assist with field surveys of rivers and stormwater treatment practices using GPS and total station. They will also help process survey data using GIS and/or CAD.
- Wetlands
  - Interns will assist with GIS mapping of wetland data collected by FEA.

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Water Quality Interns will work on additional projects if their interests align with other work that FEA does. Please see our website for additional types of projects that we are involved in: [www.fitzgeraldenvironmental.com](http://www.fitzgeraldenvironmental.com).

**Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:**

- Required- Comfort/Experience with outdoor fieldwork in variable weather conditions and remote locations.
- Preferred- Experience with the following subjects: GIS, Geomorphology, Environmental Science, Soil Science, CAD.

**Supervision:** Frank Piasecki, Watershed Scientist, will provide primary supervision and training. Evan Fitzgerald, Principal Geomorphologist and Lisa Steadman, Office Administrator will provide administrative supervision and training. Water Quality Interns will be trained by other experienced FEA staff members to conduct fieldwork for our projects. During a two-week training period, interns will be directly supervised and trained by the project managers for the specific, project-related work that they will conduct. Additional oversight and training will be provided by Joe Bartlett, Senior Watershed Scientist, Rodrigue Spinette, Senior Wetland Scientist, Abby Munterich, Water Resources Designer and Jordan Duffy, Water Quality Engineer. After the training period, interns may be given tasks to complete in the field without direct supervision.

**Start and End Dates:** Mid-May – Mid-August 2026 (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

**Total Hours:** 20-40 hours/week for 12 weeks (40 hours/week preferred)

**Compensation:** \$18/hour

**How to apply:**

**Rubenstein students who will have completed their sophomore or junior year by summer 2026 are eligible to apply. Students graduating in May 2026 are not eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.**

1. Click the following link to view the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Descriptions in Handshake: <https://uvm.joinhandshake.com/employers/226837>

- If asked to log in: click “UVM Net ID Login” & login.

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- Click the Favorite button to enable easier searches in the future.

2. Click “View All Jobs” in Jobs at Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program box on the right side of page.

3. You should now see the Perennial Internship opportunities! Click “View Details” to learn more about each position.

- Please do take the time to carefully read each individual description so that you don’t miss a great opportunity by judging an internship solely on its title.
- You may apply for up to **three** Perennial Internships.
- All applications are due by **11:59pm, on Wednesday, February 4th, 2026.**

4. You’ll need to upload a Resume, Cover Letter, and Recommender File in Handshake before you can apply for any Perennial Internship:

- Click on your name at top right of screen in Handshake
- Select Documents.
- Please upload all documents as PDFs.
  - The following are the required documents:
    - ♣ Resume
    - ♣ Cover Letter
      - You should write and upload a unique cover letter for each position to which you are applying.
      - In your cover letter, provide the name & contact information for at least one professional reference. This could be someone who supervised you in a past work/internship/volunteer position, or a professor or teacher, etc. The person listed should not be the person who completes your recommendation form.
    - ♣ Recommender File (see below) - as you will not have access to the form, you are asked to upload a PDF with the name and email of the recommender to whom you have sent the recommender form.

**5. A Recommendation form will need to be completed by a Rubenstein faculty, graduate student, or staff member of your choosing.** When you ask your recommender if they are willing to complete the form to support your application, please provide your recommender:

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- This link: [RECOMMENDATION FORM](#)
- Only one recommendation form needs to be completed regardless of how many Perennial Internships you are applying for.
- Your recommender will complete and submit this form online, and then your recommendation will be confidentially added to your application(s). **This recommendation form needs to be submitted by the February 4th, deadline.**

6. Make sure that your resume and cover letter(s) are as strong as they can be! Utilize the resources around you:

- Get your resume and cover letter reviewed by a Career Counselor at the Career Center. You can check the Career Center's drop-in hours [here](#). The Career Center also offers a guide on building your resume available [here](#).
- Set up an appointment with one of Rubenstein's Career Coaches - [Emily LeForce](#) or [Cathy Shiga-Gattullo](#) - or with the PIP Coordinator, [Sarah Mell](#). Just swing by Aiken 220 to connect!

7. If you are selected to interview for a Perennial Internship, you will be contacted by the site to set up an interview during late February to early March.

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