



Rubenstein School of Environment
and Natural Resources

Perennial Internship Program – Summer 2026

Internship Position Description

Internship Title: Nantucket Waterkeeper

Intern Internship Site: Nantucket, Massachusetts

Description: The Nantucket Land & Water Council (NLWC) summer internship will support the NLWC's environmental programs including research, education & outreach, advocacy, and land protection. The internship will focus on supporting the Nantucket Waterkeeper with several projects across many disciplines. The responsibilities of the intern will include:

1. Assisting with data collection and fieldwork for NLWC's ongoing summer research projects focused on the health of our island's marine and freshwater resources. These projects may include, among others: Eelgrass monitoring and restoration, freshwater pond water quality sampling, and harmful algae bloom monitoring;
2. Assisting with ongoing equipment maintenance and sample processing/shipping;
3. Assisting with educational programs either in person or via a virtual platform;
4. Assisting with communication via the writing and creation of newsletter articles and/or social media messaging;
5. Leading NLWC's Oyster Upweller maintenance and education programs;
6. Conducting an independent policy-focused research project with assistance from staff.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework: Desired qualifications include some background in biological, environmental, or natural resources sciences/studies, writing and communication skills, with lab or field experience and education or leadership experience strongly preferred. A great candidate will be a self-starter and a team player with a strong desire to learn and an ability to work independently.

*Rubenstein students currently in their sophomore and junior years are eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.

Staff housing is included and located mid-island close to all necessary amenities. Bike and bus transportation are recommended, as car transport is expensive, and Nantucket is a very bike and pedestrian-friendly island.

Supervision: The Waterkeeper intern will report to the Nantucket Waterkeeper, and most days will work directly alongside the Waterkeeper on research and education projects. Sometimes, the Waterkeeper intern will also work directly with other NLWC staff, volunteers, and other island organizations.

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

Total Hours: 35 hours/week for 12-14 weeks

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.
- 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.

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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:

- This link: [RECOMMENDATION FORM](#)
- Only one recommendation form needs to be completed regardless of how many Perennial Internships you are applying for.

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- 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 from late February to early March.

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