

Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources

University of Vermont

Perennial Summer Internship Program - 2021

Internship Title: Lake Champlain Cyanobacteria Monitoring Project

Internship Site: Remote or UVM Campus – Vermont Limnology Laboratory

Description: The intern will assist with the Champlain cyanobacteria monitoring program, which is active June through October. Primary responsibility will be the identification and enumeration of weekly cyanobacteria samples collected from Champlain and several inland lakes, completing density calculations and uploading the data to the Dept of Health Tracking website. The intern will also be responsible for overseeing citizen cyanobacteria monitors on inland lakes. Additional tasks include analysis of water samples for the pigment phycocyanin, assisting with the development of education and outreach materials, responding to bloom events around the state and building our library of pertinent research. There will also be opportunity to assist with sample collection on Lake Champlain and experience other aspects of work in the DEC Lakes and Ponds Program and/or the Vermont Limnology Laboratory at UVM. To see how the data we generate is used, visit the Vermont Dept of Health CyanoTracker webpage and the VT DEC's cyanobacteria webpage.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework: You must be comfortable working at the microscope for 4- 5 hours daily. Experience with algae identification would be great, however training will be provided. An understanding of basic limnology would be helpful as would experience with publishing software and databases. The applicant should also be comfortable interacting with citizen monitors in person as well as via email or phone.

Rubenstein students currently in their sophomore and junior years are eligible to apply. Seniors graduating in May 2021 are not eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.* Due to possible restrictions related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Perennial Internships may happen as described, be modified or canceled.

Supervision: The intern will be primarily supervised by Dr. Mindy Morales, Assistant Professor at UVM and Head of the Vermont Limnology Laboratory, with support from Oliver Pierson, the DEC Lakes and Ponds Program Manager and Interim Coordinator for the Lake Champlain Cyanobacteria Monitoring Project. The intern will occasionally work with others in the DEC Lakes Program, the Vermont Limnology Laboratory, and with our counterparts at the Department of Health.

Start and End Dates: Mid-May – Mid-August, 2021 (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

Total Hours: 20 hours/week, 12 weeks

Compensation: \$13/hour

How to apply: Step-by-step instructions. Please follow them closely.

- 1) Click the following link to view the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Descriptions in Handshake:
<https://uvm.joinhandshake.com/employers/226837>
 - a) If asked to log in: click “UVM Net ID Login” & login.
 - b) 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 right side of page.
- 3) You should now see the great Perennial internship opportunities! Click “View Details” to learn more about each position.
 - a) 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.
 - b) You may apply for up to **three** Perennial Internships.
 - c) All applications are due by 11:59pm, Wednesday, February 17th, 2021.
- 4) You’ll need to upload both required documents in Handshake before you can apply for any Perennial Internship:
 - a) Click on your name at top right of screen in Handshake
 - b) Select Documents.
- 5) Please upload documents as pdfs. The following are required documents:
 - a) Resume
 - b) Cover Letter
 - i) You should write and upload unique cover letters for each position to which you are applying.
 - ii) In your cover letter, provide name & contact information for at least one professional reference. This could be someone who supervised you in a past work/internship/volunteer position, a professor or teacher, etc. The person listed should **not** be the person also completing your recommendation form.
- 6) In addition to the documents listed above, a [recommendation form](#) will need to be completed by a Rubenstein faculty, graduate student or staff member of your choosing.
 - a) When you ask your recommender if they are willing to complete the form to support your application, please provide your recommender this [link to the recommendation form](#)
 - b) Only one recommendation form needs to be completed regardless of how many Perennial Internships you are applying for.
 - c) Your recommender will complete & 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 17th deadline.
- 7) Make sure that your resume and cover letter(s) are as strong as they can be! Utilize the resources around you:
 - a) The Rubenstein Stewards are great at reviewing resumes/cover letters and providing helpful feedback. Email the Stewards to schedule an appointment after the start of the semester:
RSENRStewards@uvm.edu

- b) Get your resume and cover letter reviewed by a Career Counselor at the Career Center. [You can learn more here about how to schedule an appointment.](#)
 - c) Sign up for a resume/cover letter review appointment with Anna Smiles-Becker (Rubenstein Career Counselor & Internship Coordinator) using [Navigate](#).
- 8) If you are selected to interview for a Perennial Internship, you will be contacted by the site to set up an interview during early-mid March.