

**Volunteer/Unpaid, DENVER, CO – EPA Region 8, Harmful Algal Bloom Field and Laboratory Intern
(CLOSING DATE: 03/26/2021)**

Background:

Earth Day is every day at EPA! At EPA, you can protect human health and the environment of all Americans, and you'll discover that EPA is one great place to work! Our diverse workforce connects to more than just a career--we share a common passion to promote a cleaner, healthier environment. Discover how exciting safeguarding our natural resources and protecting human health can be.

EPA Regions 7 and 8 are conducting research on Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) within urban lakes in several metropolitan areas including: Kansas City, MO; Kansas City, KS; Cincinnati, OH; and Denver, CO. Five lakes will be sampled in the Denver area several times during the summer recreational season. This effort is part of a Regional Applied Research Efforts (RARE) study to investigate the correlation between urban watershed characteristics and cyanoHABs. Region 8 is looking for a motivated individual to assist with the RARE Urban Lakes HAB work during the summer of 2021.

Job Description:

Successful candidates will perform field and lab-based duties, including water sampling, fish tissue sampling, preparation of field/lab equipment, and education and outreach work. Training for field and safety, sampling techniques, and lab safety will be provided. We encourage anyone to apply who has an interest in ecology, water quality, environmental science, biology, or public health.

Candidates must possess a strong ability to collect and accurately record field data, follow protocols, operate and maintain field/lab equipment, practice safety while in the field, and maintain a professional and personable demeanor while working with the public.

Working conditions:

- Field work is strenuous and physically demanding, requires heavy lifting (25+ pounds), extended periods of standing and crouching, and working in adverse weather conditions.
- Staff will be required to wear personal protective equipment, such as N95 masks, while performing tasks due to COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Successful candidates are expected to go out into the field 1 – 2 times per week for sampling and perform lab/data/outreach work 2 – 3 times per week, based on the candidates desired work schedule.

Specific duties may include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Water sampling
- Preparing field and lab equipment
- Handling water samples
- Analyzing data
- Developing public educational materials relating to HABs and water quality

Desired Skills:

- Excellent written and verbal communication
- Basic Excel, Word and Publisher
- A strong ability to collect and accurately record field data
- Ability to work independently
- Works well on a team

Knowledge/Experience (optional, but a bonus):

- Water sampling experience
- General/basic knowledge of ecology, water chemistry, earth science, **OR** biology

Timeline: Intern will be on board for a minimum of 1 month, maximum of 5 months (there may be an opportunity to extend for a maximum of 6 months, but this is not assured).

Desired hours per week: Minimum of 20 hrs. per week; Maximum of 40 hrs. per week.

Desired start date: June 2021. Start date is flexible.

(Note: From the time of acceptance, there will be a 2-4-week period prior to first day of work while paperwork is completed.)

Work location:

EPA Region 8 Headquarters: 1595 Wynkoop St, Denver, CO 80202.

EPA Region 8 Lab: Lakewood, Colorado

Due to the current conditions of COVID-19, the EPA has declared mandatory telework for all employees as of Spring 2021. Staff are allowed to enter the lab by scheduling dates with supervisors.

How to Apply: Email your transcripts, resume, cover sheet to Madeline Castro (castro.madeline@epa.gov) by March 26, 2021.

For More Information: Madeline Castro, Water Division at castro.madeline@epa.gov or Tanya Code, Water Division at code.tanya@epa.gov

Human Resources Contact: Elaine Robles, (303) 312-6194 or Robles.elaine@epa.gov