

Internship Announcement

Position: North Sound Waterkeeper Intern

Duration: April - June 2024 with the option to extend

Hours: 5-8 hrs/wk with more hours possible

Availability desired these dates: April 21 and May 12

Type: Unpaid

Background: RE Sources is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization located in Bellingham, WA. Our mission is to promote sustainable communities through science, education, advocacy, and action. RE Sources' North Sound Waterkeeper Team is charged with protecting and restoring the marine and nearshore habitats of the northern Puget Sound region. The North Sound Waterkeeper Team is currently looking for an intern to assist with conducting beach cleanups, pollution patrols, water quality sampling, and research projects.

Job Description: RE Sources seeks a motivated intern who will assist in a variety of activities that monitor, restore, and measure our local water ecosystems as well as engage community members. Work will be conducted with RE Sources staff, community members, or independently.

Main Responsibilities:

- Beach Cleanups: The intern will assist the Community Engagement Specialist in setting up, running, and breaking down community beach cleanups. Some cleanups may include data collection using the Escaped Trash Assessment Protocol (ETAP) and/or microplastics survey.
- Pollution Patrols and Water Sampling: The intern may conduct Pollution Patrols or gather water samples via foot, bike, car, kayak, or canoe. The object of the patrols and sampling are to find and report pollution with the intent to clean-up the pollution and prevent further pollution from occurring along with gathering data and keeping an eye on our waterways.
- Research Project: Conduct research on water quality issues that are both of interest and value to the intern and RE Sources.

Additional Responsibilities:

- Interact and engage with community members
- Attend or watch trainings
- Database entry and display
- Assist with drone work
- Assist with other Waterkeeper projects
- Attend optional organization meetings

Education benefits:

Interns will gain the following knowledge and/or experience in:

- How to host community beach cleanups and quantify collected trash
- Local water quality issues including the identification and reporting of pollution

- Proper water sampling and data management protocols
- Engaging and interacting with community members in pollution prevention and protection and in taking action to protect the environment.

Required Qualifications:

- Physically fit to lift buckets and trash and to carry and load kayaks and canoes
- Ability to walk on slippery and unstable surfaces
- Confident and engaging interpersonal skills
- Adventurous attitude
- Ability to work independently and in group settings
- Ability to meet deadlines and pay attention to detail

Desired Qualifications:

- Background/Coursework in Water Quality or Environmental Science
- Driver's License and good driving record
- Kayak, canoe, or other paddling experience

For more information, contact Kirsten McDade, Pollution Prevention Specialist with the North Sound Waterkeeper Team kirstenm@re-sources.org or 360 220-0556.

To apply: please send a cover letter, resume, and course transcript (unofficial OK) to kirstenm@re-sources.org no later than Feb 11, 2024.