

2021 Wisconsin Sea Grant Summer Internship Program

Internship Descriptions

January 13, 2021

1. Eat Wisconsin Fish
2. Adapting the Flood Resilience Scorecard for Wisconsin Tribes
3. Beach Ambassador Program for Great Lakes Water Safety
4. Traditional Ecological Knowledge of Green Bay's Culturally Significant Plants
5. Great Lake Geospatial Data Visualization

COVID-19 Location/Work Setting Statement for all Internships:

At the time of this notice of opportunity, public health protocols to curb the spread of COVID-19 are in place. While the status of the pandemic at the beginning of internships in June is unknown, all internships will be structured to accommodate either remotely conducted activities or safe, in-person activities. Resilience and flexibility given these uncertainties are necessary and appreciated.

Eat Wisconsin Fish

Project Description:

Eat Wisconsin Fish is about connecting consumers, fish farmers and commercial fishers through information about local fish available for purchase in Wisconsin. Eat Wisconsin Fish supports the goal of creating a safe and sustainable seafood supply to meet consumer demand, as well as fostering informed consumers who understand the health benefits of seafood consumption and how to evaluate the safety and sustainability of the seafood they buy.

Intern Responsibilities:

Help the program by applying your culinary and/or illustration skills. On the culinary side, you can show off cooking techniques and recipes that focus on fish harvested or produced in Wisconsin. The expectation is that you will film yourself cooking fish with a running commentary in your own kitchen at least once a week over the summer and that you will help make edited versions of these videos available to audiences through the Eat Wisconsin Fish website and social media platforms. If you have artistic interests, you can help tell the story of Wisconsin food-fish by illustrating fish, aquatic food webs, farm-to-table concepts, and the health-related aspects of eating fish. Your work will become part of the Eat Wisconsin Fish website, social media and more.

Location:

Virtual

Work Setting:

Office work (80%), Off-site (20%)

Qualifications and Interests:

- interest in art, food science and science communication
- strong communication skills
- comfortable working independently and as part of a team

Adapting the Flood Resilience Scorecard for Wisconsin Tribes

Project Description:

The state of Wisconsin's abundant water creates innumerable benefits to residents but can also lead to detrimental, and, at times, devastating flooding for communities. Flooding has been a principal cause of damage in over 30 presidential disaster declarations in Wisconsin from 1971 through June 2016, and, as recently as August of 2018, caused more than \$200 million of dollars in damage in southern Wisconsin (Kirwan & The Associated Press, 2018). Repeated severe flooding events, in particular, have taken a toll on communities in northwestern Wisconsin over the last decade (<https://www.wiscontext.org/washed-away-northwest-wisconsin-copes-costs-changing-climate>).

To mitigate the effects of flooding, it is in a community's best interest to put preventative measures in place, but it can be tricky to know where to start. The Flood Resilience Scorecard, released in collaboration between Wisconsin Sea Grant and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in fall of 2020, was designed to help communities more easily identify what makes them most vulnerable to flooding and what actions they can take to increase their resilience (<https://www.seagrant.wisc.edu/our-work/focus-areas/coastal-communities/flood-resilience-scorecard/>). It is a comprehensive, whole community-approach focused tool that can be used by public officials to evaluate flood vulnerability through three different lenses.

Intern Responsibilities:

After a review of the Flood Resilience Scorecard and associated materials, the intern will be responsible for evaluating the appropriateness of the Flood Resilience Scorecard for tribal communities in the state of Wisconsin (Wisconsin is home to 11 federally recognized tribes, <https://dpi.wi.gov/amind/tribalnationswi/>). Additionally, the intern will work with project team members to pilot the Scorecard in a tribal community. This work will add immense benefit to the overall project and its impact across the state.

Location:

Virtual

Work Setting:

Office work (60%), Off-site (40%)

Qualifications and interests:

- comfortable working independently and as part of a team
- experience working with diverse communities

Beach Ambassador Program for Great Lakes Water Safety

Project Description:

Issues of water safety on Milwaukee's beaches have been exacerbated due to COVID-19 and high water levels on Lake Michigan. COVID-19 has caused more people to be outside and use the beaches, but many people are not aware of or are not following necessary precautions to ensure safety while on beaches. These factors have led to drownings on local Milwaukee beaches that perhaps could have been prevented with proper awareness through education, outreach, and effective communication of water safety resources. People of color, and particularly African American and Black communities, are at increased risk of drowning due to often having a no or low level of swimming ability (USA Swimming Foundation). The 2021 Beach Ambassador project is a pilot program organized by University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute and several Milwaukee-based partners. The Beach Ambassador pilot project aims to create a new platform for effectively communicating Lake Michigan beach conditions and increasing awareness and knowledge among the general public to prevent further unnecessary drownings.

Internship Responsibilities:

- Work with a small team to visit Milwaukee area beaches with the purpose of educating the general public about current or potential beach hazards, including rip tides and beach closures due to water quality.
- Regularly work in coordination with project team and Milwaukee County lifeguards and staff to be knowledgeable of up to date weather and water quality conditions
- Participate in a 1 to 2 day training program on beach safety and how to effectively convey safety messaging as a Beach Ambassador.
- Supervise part-time hourly staff
- Clearly and effectively communicate current or potential beach hazards with beach goers.

Location:

Milwaukee, Wisconsin (see COVID-19 statement on page 1)

Work Setting:

Office work (50%), Field work (50%)

Qualifications and interests:

- Must be able to work flexible hours including some early evenings and weekends
- Ability and desire to work outside during a variety of weather conditions
- Safe interaction with the public if COVID-19 restrictions are still in place, including the use of face masks at all times while working.
- Comfort in approaching and enthusiastically communicating with members of the public
- An interest in water safety and social justice
- Leadership skills and knowledge of Google Suite (ex: Docs, Meet, Sheets, Drive)
- Upper class with status of junior, senior, or recent graduate

Traditional Ecological Knowledge of Green Bay's Culturally Significant Plants

Project Description:

Harvesting, medicinal, and food practices of plants using traditional ecological knowledge that was/is common with First Nations people in the area continues to be significant in honoring sovereignty and treaty rights. Through a mentorship with the UW-Green Bay First Nations Graduate Assistant this project will focus on integrating traditional ecological knowledge of medicinal plant species on UW-GB owned and managed coastal properties including the UW-GB Cofrin Memorial Arboretum, Point au Sable Nature Preserve, and Wequiock Creek Natural Area. This 10-week summer internship will be focused on identifying and implementing sustainable practices around medicinal plants and harvesting.

Intern Responsibilities:

This intern will engage with First Nations Studies Department, and UWGB Sea Grant to raise awareness about medicinal plants cultural and ecological significance within UWGB campus. This may include but is not limited to, attending workshops about medicinal plants and harvesting practices, plant identification and surveys, creation of outreach and education materials, and engagement with First Nations communities in the surrounding area of Green Bay.

Location:

Green Bay, Wisconsin (see COVID-19 statement on page 1)

Work Setting:

Office work (50%), Off-site (50%)

Qualifications:

- interest in Native and Indigenous knowledge systems
- creativity
- comfortable working as part of a team
- ability to drive to off-site locations (valid driver's license, good driving record, etc.)

Great Lakes Geospatial Data Visualization

Project Description:

US Environmental Protection Agency researchers are working with state and federal partners to support Great Lakes water quality monitoring, invasive species early detection, and Great Lakes restoration. Researchers are also examining how Great Lakes restoration is improving human wellbeing in Great Lakes communities. This work has substantial data challenges, including integrating data from a variety of sensors and sources, processing and displaying high-resolution data (e.g., autonomous underwater glider data, watershed hydrology and remotely sensed data), and integrating data from the natural and social sciences (e.g., citizen science, ecosystem services). Goals of the research include improved data processing, developing data analytics, and novel visualization methods.

Intern Responsibilities:

This intern will participate in research activities associated with a variety of Great Lakes ecosystems. Activities will emphasize data analysis of ecological, physical, and social geospatial datasets using GIS, data analytics, and data visualization technologies. The intern will have the opportunity to participate in multi-agency meetings and learn about ongoing resource management issues across the Great Lakes while working with a wide variety of datasets.

Location:

Virtual

Work Setting:

Office work (100%)

Qualifications and interests:

- comfortable working independently and as part of a team
- some course experience in geographic information systems preferred