2020 Summer Water Resource Technician

Primary Objectives:
The Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) is seeking two seasonal technicians for the 2020 field season (start and end dates are flexible). Seasonal technicians will support a wide array of District water quality monitoring and research activities.

Duties and Responsibilities:
- Assist with the collection of lake and stream water quality samples using various sampling tools.
- Install, operate, and maintain automated monitoring equipment.
- Assist with the data collection of various research projects.
- Conduct field inspections and inventories of shoreline condition of lakes, streams, and drainage systems using GIS equipment.
- Conduct aquatic vegetation surveys.
- Participate in outreach and educational events.
- Perform additional administrative and/or field duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications:
- Current enrollment in bachelor or graduate degree program in the biology, hydrology, geology, environmental science, ecology, or other natural resources related field (preference given to students returning to school in the fall of 2020);
- Ability to walk on uneven terrain, lift up to 50 pounds;
- Work in inclement weather;
- Wade in rivers and streams;
- Operate a boat/motor and trailer;
- Valid driver’s license with means of transportation for business if necessary; proof of insurance required;
- Computer proficiency in Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint;

Desirable Training and Experience:
- Highly organized and detail oriented;
- Experience with environmental field work;
- Effective communication skills, both oral and written;
- Experience with GIS computer software;
- Basic understanding of aquatic ecology, limnology, and hydrology principles.

Benefits:
- $11-$13 hourly wages.
- Flexible start and end dates (mid-May to late-August).
- Full-Time (40 hrs/week), typically 8 hrs/day, Monday-Friday.
- Housing not provided, but assistance finding local housing may be available.

To apply, submit a cover letter, resume, and job application to the address below or by email to prwdinfo@arvig.net

Closing date: 2/21/2020 or until filled

Adam Mortenson, Water Resource Coordinator
Pelican River Watershed District
211 Holmes Street West – Suite 201
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Website: www.prwd.org     Phone: (218)846-0436
About Us

The Pelican River Watershed District is a local unit of government specializing in water quality established in 1966 to manage water quality on as many as 35 District lakes and about 30 miles of streams and drainage ditches. The District is relatively small, about 120sq miles, and centers on the city of Detroit Lakes, MN. Our mission statement is:

*To enhance the quality of water in the lakes within its jurisdiction. It is understood that to accomplish this, the District must ensure that wise decisions are made concerning the management of streams, wetlands, lakes, groundwater, and related land resources which affect these lakes.*

Through our Water Resource Technicians, we collect large amounts of data on the water quality of District waters and the spread of aquatic invasive species in the District. We use this data to prioritize water quality management projects and programs. One program the District employs to slow the degradation of water quality is its construction permitting program. Through this program, the District ensures sustainable and environmentally conscious expansion of the City of Detroit Lakes and the development of lakeshores in the District. The District has also been given the authority to manage the state drainage systems within its borders. The District manages these ditches in an effort to limit ecological impacts to stream reaches while maintain the anthropogenic purpose of the system.

Why Work for us?

Working at the Pelican River Watershed District is an excellent opportunity for students in the natural resource field to gain valuable experience. We offer the opportunity to gain valuable experience and connections in the State of Minnesota. The main focus of our summer intern program is water quality monitoring and aquatic vegetation monitoring. Water Resource Technicians will gain hands on experience in aquatic plant identification, water quality sampling in lakes and streams, and stream geomorphology. Technicians will also have the opportunity to participate in outreach events to educate the public on conservation of water quality. Technicians will have the opportunity to work with other local agencies to gain experience in related fields. For example, technicians from previous years have helped the DNR with goose banding and electrofishing. Work will be mostly outdoors and away from the office. We offer the opportunity to learn in the field the basics of managing aquatic systems. Be prepared for a summer on the lakes, a thing most people only dream of!