

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)
Division of Watershed Stewardship, Shoreline and Waterway Management Section
Summer Intern 2021

The DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship, Shoreline and Waterway Management Section (SWMS) is seeking an intern to assist with Section projects for a 10 to 12-week period in the summer of 2021. The intern will be expected to work remotely, and the work location for this position will be Dover or Lewes, DE, should DNREC's offices resume in-person work during summer 2021. The intern's work will support SWMS's mission of maintaining and improving Delaware's shoreline and waterways.

Position Description

The intern will support SWMS activities and will have the opportunity to participate in project work, networking, and training. It is anticipated that the intern will be involved in two projects.

1) The intern will support the SWMS with analysis of the Delaware coastal building line. DNREC regulates coastal construction in an effort to enhance, preserve and protect public and private beaches and dunes. This regulatory authority was granted by the Beach Preservation Act of 1972. To help facilitate regulation of construction activities on Delaware's Beaches, a Building Line was established in 1981 and re-evaluated in 2002. However, given shoreline change rates, both from natural processes as well as nourishment projects, we expect that this Building Line may no longer reflect the shape and form of the current shoreline. The intern would help to evaluate where and to what degree the seaward contour used to establish the Building Line has changed on the Delaware Bay shore, using recent LiDAR data, aerial imagery, and ArcGIS software.

2) The intern will support the SWMS with digital outreach, especially on social media. Delaware CoastSnap, a SWMS citizen science project, aims to leverage smartphone technology to collect photographs taken by citizen scientists to quantitatively measure shoreline position and beachface slope. The photographs are uploaded by users on social media using site specific hashtags. The intern will work with program staff and DNREC public relations staff to help curate the social media presence for multiple SWMS programs and projects, including CoastSnap, as well as to perform user surveys both online and in the field to help improve the accessibility and usability of the project by citizen scientists.

Desired Qualifications

SWMS is seeking a rising junior or senior, or current graduate student, with coursework and/or experience pertaining to coastal resources and natural hazards management. Potential majors could include geography, marine science or policy, environmental science, environmental studies, engineering technology, geographic information systems technology, or civil and environmental engineering. Experience with technical writing, educational/website content development, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) preferred.

Application Process

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to Ashley Norton at Ashley.norton@delaware.gov. Candidates selected for further consideration will be asked to fill out an application and participate in a phone interview.

Please apply by April 23, 2021