



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE

Green Infrastructure Research Intern (Summer 2023)

ABOUT US: At New Jersey Future, we believe that great places help build great lives. To help create and preserve our great places, we promote sensible and equitable planning, redevelopment, and infrastructure investments that foster vibrant cities and towns, protect natural lands and waterways, enhance transportation choices, support a strong economy, and provide access to safe, affordable and aging-friendly neighborhoods for everyone. We do this through original research, innovative policy development, coalition-building, advocacy, and hands-on strategic assistance. Embracing differences and advancing fairness is central to our mission and operations and we are firmly committed to pursuing greater justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in our work and culture. New Jersey Future (NJF) is located in downtown Trenton, NJ. For more information, visit www.njfuture.org.

BACKGROUND: Years ago, green building standards, such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), were considered eccentric and expensive. Now, they are mainstream and understood to be the smart way to build. The same thing is happening with green infrastructure. An important paradigm shift has accelerated the mainstreaming process: the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) updated its stormwater management rules, effective March 2021, to mandate the use of green infrastructure to meet the rule's stormwater requirements. The implications of this rule change will affect most, but not all, development in New Jersey. Included in the new rule, every NJ municipality must update their stormwater ordinance to comply with the new amendment.

However, there is more work to be done to promote green infrastructure in order to improve water quality, reduce flood risk, and increase walkability in New Jersey municipalities. This internship will research the implementation of municipal stormwater control ordinances to better understand the impact. Ultimately, the work of the intern will contribute to New Jersey Future's goal of promoting healthy, equitable, and resilient communities.

INTERNSHIP SUMMARY: New Jersey Future's Mainstreaming Green Infrastructure (MGI) program seeks a current college student or recent graduate to research green infrastructure and municipal stormwater ordinances in New Jersey. The intern reports to the Policy and Program Coordinator.

Potential research questions include:

- Which municipalities have updated their stormwater control ordinances? How has this impacted the implementation of green infrastructure?
- In towns that have updated their Stormwater Control Ordinances as required by the NJDEP through the Stormwater Rule updates, are the requirements for green infrastructure being enforced? Who is in charge of enforcement? Are there any examples of the ordinances kicking in to require green infrastructure in a new warehouse or large development?
- Which municipalities are going beyond minimum requirements to expand green infrastructure in their communities?
- Which municipalities have large parking lots or other areas with large impervious cover that do not have green infrastructure? Use impervious coverage data from NJDEP and Google Maps Street View to investigate this question.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Green Infrastructure Research Intern's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Conduct research projects as assigned, following the guidance of NJF staff.
- Write short internal reports to document findings.
- Provide support in collecting stormwater data to update the Jersey Water Check data dashboard.
- Write a blog post to publicize results at the end of the internship.
- Complete other tasks to support the MGI program as needed, including note-taking at meetings.

REQUIREMENTS

- Motivated by the organization's mission and dedicated to creating equitable and sustainable communities.
- Current college student or recent college graduate.
- Experience gathering information through online research and stakeholder outreach.
- Strong writing, citation, and communication skills.
- Attention to detail in producing accurate and meaningful results and products.
- Ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously, using time effectively and efficiently.
- Ability to work independently and as a part of a team.
- Demonstrated initiative and adaptability.
- Interest in environmental sustainability, stormwater management, and/or policy.
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

COMPENSATION: This is a part-time job (averaging approximately 20 hours a week for 10 weeks) at the hourly rate of \$18 per hour. As a part-time employee, you are not eligible for benefits, such as disability, health, dental, vision, or life insurance. No vacation days will be accrued, but you will earn one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked. The MGI team will work with the successful candidates to determine the specific internship start date in May 2023 and ending date.

New Jersey Future employees are working on a hybrid work-from-home and in-office schedule. The MGI team will work with the intern to determine whether their schedule will be hybrid or remote.

APPLICATION: Interested and qualified candidates should submit a cover letter and a resume to HR@njfuture.org by April 10, 2023. Please write "Green Infrastructure Research Intern Application" in the subject line. If selected, relevant references and writing samples may be required.



At New Jersey Future, we embrace differences and advance fairness as a means to nurturing powerful ideas and realizing meaningful social change. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply and will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.