



Job Posting - Field and Laboratory Technician

The River Institute is anticipating an opening for an Assistant Website Developer with funding support through Eco Canada's [Youth in Natural Resources Program](#). Eligibility for this program is limited to **youth** who are:

- Between the ages of 15-30.
- Canadian citizens, Canadian permanent residents, or Canadian refugee status individuals.

River Institute Background:

The River Institute non-profit, charitable organization that undertakes research, education, and community outreach to protect and conserve the St. Lawrence River and other freshwater ecosystems. We offer a great team environment and energetic staff. The River Institute has received national and international awards for its contributions to science programming, including science education and for raising awareness and support for environmental protection and restoration issues.

Job Description:

The Intern will provide field and laboratory support for programs assessing water quality, habitats and biological communities in the St. Lawrence River ecosystem, including in an Area of Concern, conducted in collaboration with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, government agencies, and not-for-profit organizations. The intern will participate in field sampling, as well as laboratory, reporting, and communication activities.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Perform field work to conduct water quality, habitat and biological surveys requiring knowledge of freshwater fish species, aquatic invertebrates and aquatic plants. Work will involve sampling with a variety of equipment types to conduct field assessments and may occasionally be under adverse conditions (rain, warm weather, etc.) or at times outside of typical 8 am to 4 pm weekday hours.
- Assist with the collection of environmental DNA (eDNA) samples in the field, including performing eDNA filtrations, managing supplies and equipment, and storage of samples.
- Perform laboratory analyses of eDNA samples, including DNA extractions, qPCR assays, managing supplies and equipment, storage of samples, and data summaries.
- Perform laboratory-based activities, including analyses related to water quality and contaminant analyses.
- Participate in habitat restoration activities such as augmenting fish spawning areas or planting in riparian zones.
- Maintain necessary paperwork and field records for data collection.

- Maintain field equipment.
- Participate in training workshops for fish and other aquatic species identification.
- Perform data entry (Microsoft Excel), report writing, assist with research proposal preparations.
- Assist with data analysis using statistical and GIS software.
- Assist with training and mentoring programs.
- Attend and assist with community events, workshops, presentations, and education programs related to projects.
- Perform other related duties as required.

Knowledge and Skills:

The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications and abilities:

- Student (secondary, undergraduate, graduate) with a focus or interest in environmental science, biology, life sciences, or other related discipline.
- Ability to work independently, exhibiting a high degree of initiative, self-discipline, organizational skills, time management, and professionalism.
- Ability to work in a laboratory environment, both under supervision and independently, with responsibility for sample processing. Previous laboratory experience is an asset.
- Able to conduct field work that is physically demanding. Habitat restoration activities may be especially demanding (e.g. carrying heavy equipment).
- Able to work in adverse weather conditions and warm summer weather.
- Ability to read and write well in English.
- Computer Skills i.e.: Microsoft Office and Geographical Information Systems
- Driver's license
- Familiarity with working on or near the water and ability to obtain a Pleasure Craft Operators card.

Reports to:

Program Leader, Research and Technical Services

Wage and Employment Conditions:

Deadline: April 26th, 2024. This is a 6-month contract position, dependent on award of funding, with an anticipated start date of May 1, 2024 (or thereabouts) and an hourly rate of \$20.49 (35 hours per week) Monday to Friday, 8 to 4 pm.

Interested candidates should email a cover letter and resume to jjarvis@riverinstitute.ca Office Coordinator, indicating Assistant Website Developer Position in the subject line.

The River Institute is committed to enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in its staff and programs. To hire a diverse team, we are committed to training employees who may not have all the required formal experience but can explain in their cover letter how they meet the job requirements and are willing to learn the necessary skills.

