

A sampling of ECOLOGY field placements available through The Philadelphia Center:

Academy of Natural Sciences, Research Intern: The Center for Systematic Biology and Evolution at the Academy of Natural Sciences comprises 14 different departments, housing collections of plants and animals from around the world - a total over 17 million specimens! All the collections hold national and international significance. The primary science of the Center is rooted in systematics and evolution -- the fields of biological research involving the collection and study of all species of animals, plants, and other life forms. Systematists identify organisms and give names to new species. Knowing the correct name for a species is the key to understanding its role in natural ecosystems and the history of evolution. Collections are the raw material used in systematics. Having actual specimens of organisms provides objective, verifiable records of the identities and distribution of organisms. Collections tell us with certainty where and when organisms lived. Collections are essential for identifying new specimens and recognizing new species. Collections also allow us to compare the present to the past. Volunteer jobs in the collections are sometimes difficult to define but involve basic curatorial work to maintain the collections and insure their access to scientists. Those departments currently able to consider interns include Botany, Entomology, Ichthyology, Malacology, and Ornithology. All jobs require patience, organizational skills and the ability to work independently and accurately.

Clean Air Council; Environmental Intern: Clean Air Council is a member-supported, non-profit environmental organization dedicated to protecting everyone's right to breathe clean air. The Council works through public education, community advocacy, and government oversight to ensure enforcement of environmental laws. Clean Air Council offers internship opportunities that provide a valuable and fun learning experience while the Council benefits from the students' hard work and dedication. Environmental Interns perform a wide range of tasks including: research; preparation of written materials such as reports, newsletters, and fact sheets; community, educational, and media outreach; and administrative work. Interns typically work closely with a program manager in a specific program area, but ideal

candidates are independent, creative, and self-motivated. Program areas include clean air, clean energy, sustainable transportation, waste reduction and recycling, children's environmental health, and Clean Air Council archive.

Environmental Protection Agency; Intern: The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) mission is to protect human health and to safeguard the natural environment -- air, water, and land -- upon which life depends. For 30 years, the EPA has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people. Philadelphia is home to the EPA's Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, which is responsible for the execution of the Agency's programs within its states. Opportunities available for students of all backgrounds and majors to work in the federal agency responsible for protecting the environment. Internship positions commonly include research, communication, and education activities such as preparing fact sheets or brochures on various environmental topics (e.g., watershed protection, gardening impacts, wetlands) or investigating ways to change public behavior so as to reduce environmental harm. Technical internships are also available.

University of Pennsylvania Biology Department; Intern: The mission of the Department is to combine internationally recognized research programs with a commitment to the very best in undergraduate and graduate education. The department is impressively interdisciplinary with faculty research spanning areas from the characterization of global, ecosystem biology to the biophysics of energy production and utilization. This allows us to tackle important questions in biology from an environment that encourages discussion and collaboration across different disciplines. The Biology Research Assistant will work within the ecology lab with plants in greenhouse experiments, finding and sorting fungal spores, discuss experiments and ideas for experiments, interact with graduate students, attend lectures and talks. The ideal candidate will have some background in science.

Updated 2/09