Los Angeles Waterkeeper (LAW) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to safeguard LA’s inland and coastal waters by enforcing laws and empowering communities. LAW is seeking a highly-motivated individual to join our team as a Watershed Programs Intern. As our Watershed Programs intern, you will provide support for two of our volunteer fieldwork programs: River Assessment Fieldwork Team (RAFT) and Community Water Watch (CWW). Through these programs, we collect water quality and biological data to better understand the health of our waterways and to advocate for healthier environments for communities.

**Principal Duties & Responsibilities**

Work with LAW’s Watershed Programs Manager to support our Watershed Programs:

- **River Assessment Fieldwork Team (RAFT)**
  - Support our RAFT volunteer days on Saturdays, helping to lead our field methodology, which includes insect monitoring, water quality monitoring and habitat assessments.
  - Conduct reconnaissance (with a staff member) to check our field sites for safety considerations, flow rates and access points.
  - Assist with our training days in teaching our new volunteers our field methodology.
  - Clean and organize our RAFT supplies, and order new supplies as needed.
  - Transport supplies in your car.
  - Organize and analyze our data and photos.
  - Assist with the creation of a report to highlight our findings and volunteer program.

- **Community Water Watch (CWW)**
  - Support industrial stormwater monitoring, which may occur on nights or weekends based on rainfall.
  - Assist with our training days in teaching our new volunteers our field methodology.
  - Organize our supplies, and take sample bottles to the lab.
  - Conduct reconnaissance (with a staff member) to evaluate the potential for stormwater sampling in industrial areas.
  - Support our industrial stormwater campaign with research.

- **General:**
  - Assist with research, including compiling/reviewing existing research and supporting LAW independent research as needed.
  - Support various LAW outreach activities, including participating in bothing, beach clean-ups, fundraisers, and outreach events.
  - Attend meetings related to watershed health.
  - Draft occasional newsletter articles and blog posts related to our watershed programs.
  - Support overall project management (overseeing tasklists, timelines, providing admin help).
  - Keep our lab tidy.
Required Qualifications and Skills

- Holding or pursuing a degree, preferably related to environmental studies.
- Have experience with environmental fieldwork.
- Passionate about urban stream restoration and water resiliency.
- Organized, self-motivated, punctual, and the ability to work well in a team setting and with minimal supervision.
- Possess strong writing and verbal communication skills.
- High degree of proficiency with the Microsoft Office Suite.
- Able to represent our organization with a high degree of professionalism.
- Have a flexible schedule with availability to work Saturdays and some evenings and early mornings as well.

Highly Desired Qualifications and Skills

- Graduate student or master’s degree preferred.
- Experience in water quality monitoring. Experience with stormwater monitoring and bioassessments desired.
- Knowledge of the Los Angeles River watershed context and challenges.

Physical Requirements

In addition to physical requirements associated with standard office work, this position requires fieldwork, the ability to operate a motor vehicle, lift or carry weight of 50 pounds or less, collect water samples, and the ability to work outside with exposure to weather, odors, dust and pollen. We transport a lot of fieldwork supplies, and applicants require a car to help with this transport. We drive throughout the LA County region for fieldwork.

Terms

Reports to: Watershed Programs Manager


Hours per week: Part-time of approximately 20 hours/week from. The hours may differ based on the week, especially with variable rainfall. Due to the nature of the position, regular Saturday and evening work will be required. A stipend and mileage reimbursement will be provided.

To Apply

To apply, send your resume, a cover letter and the contact information for three references to Melissa von Mayrhauser, melissavm@lawaterkeeper.org. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled. We are looking to fill this internship ASAP.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Los Angeles Waterkeeper is an equal opportunity employer and highly values diversity. Los Angeles Waterkeeper maintains a policy of non-discrimination in regard to age, ancestry, color, creed, disability,
national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other class protected by applicable state or federal law.

**About Los Angeles Waterkeeper**

Since 1993, Los Angeles Waterkeeper has been working to protect and restore Santa Monica Bay, San Pedro Bay and adjacent waters through enforcement, fieldwork and community action. Through our regulatory advocacy and litigation programs, LAW is helping to ensure that the strongest water quality protections are in place to protect waterways throughout Los Angeles County, while our marine and watershed programs are aimed at informing and empowering the public to take an active role in protecting our waters. LAW’s team of lawyers, scientists, educators and support staff collaborate on integrated projects aimed at ensuring that one day every Angeleno will have access to swimmable, fishable and drinkable waters. We are also a proud member of the California Coastkeeper Alliance and international Waterkeeper Alliance, with whom we collaborate on promoting sustainable and equitable water policies through California and across the globe.