

# 2022

## County of Orange/OC Public Works

OC Environmental Resources

2022 Internship Program



<https://ocer.ocpublicworks.com/>

# OC Environmental Resources Internship Opportunities Summer 2022



**What is the Internship Program?** [OC Environmental Resources](#) (part of the County of Orange/OC Public Works) has intern positions available for this summer and early fall. Interns will work with environmental scientists on a wide range of projects involving water quality, watershed management, environmental policy, and regulatory compliance.

Internship positions are unpaid and require a commitment of at least 2 days a week for a 3-month period and could continue into Fall 2022.

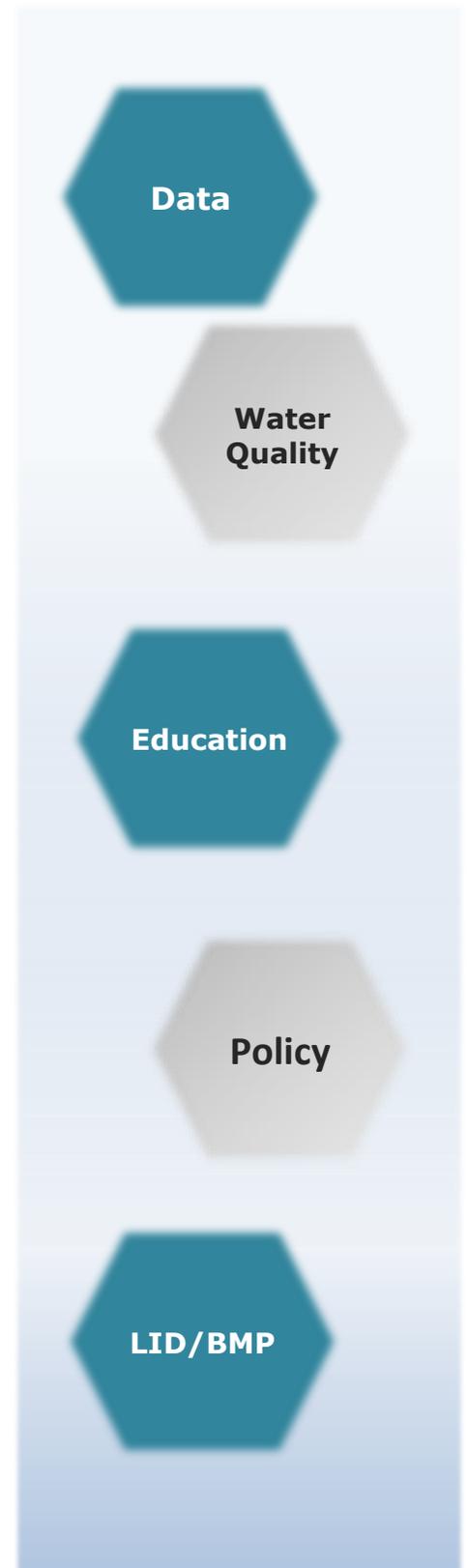
**Where is it Based?** OC Environmental Resource's main office is located at 2301 N. Glassell Street, Orange, CA 92865. A number of the intern projects will require field activities in different parts of Orange County. For some assignments, interns may be required to operate their own personal vehicle and will receive mileage reimbursement.

**Who can apply?** College students and recent graduates with a strong interest in water quality issues are encouraged to apply. Some of the projects may require a strong science background and specialized coursework.

**How do I apply?** Please review the projects on the following pages and determine which one is of most interest to you. You must then submit: 1) a cover letter, clearly identifying your project selection and your reasons and applicable skills for selecting it; and 2) your current resume, to Michael Mori at [Michael.Mori@ocpw.ocgov.com](mailto:Michael.Mori@ocpw.ocgov.com) with the subject line "Summer 2022 Internship Application". Applications that list more than one project will not be considered. Some projects may have multiple interns.

The application period will close at 11:59 pm on **May 04, 2022**. As some projects tend to fill up quickly, applicants are encouraged to apply early. The applications will be used as part of the selection process, so please ensure they fully reflect your qualifications and interests. The candidates whose applications best meet the needs of the projects will be scheduled for interviews.

**What about COVID-19?** Due to the ongoing situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the details of this internship program are subject to change. The projects described may be altered including being conducted remotely or eliminated to accommodate the fluid nature of the public health concern.



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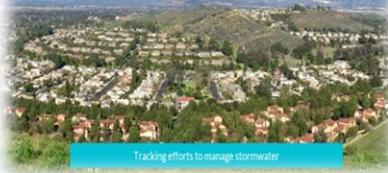
## Project 1: NPDES Compliance Support (Countywide Compliance Program)

This internship involves the implementation of various program compliance elements which make up the basis of the County of Orange and Orange County Flood Control District stormwater programs. Multiple metrics are needed to track and to report progress and compliance with two separate NPDES permits issued by the Santa Ana and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

With oversight from NPDES Compliance staff, the intern will assist with one or more of the following projects: 1) Trash and debris source investigation in the Bolsa Chica channel drainage area by assisting with the development of an ArcGIS Survey 123 field data tool; conducting team field surveys; compiling historic data; and researching trash collection alternatives; 2) Assist with developing social media messaging for the County's Public Education program: Adopt A Channel; and 3) Assist NPDES compliance staff with follow-up investigations for water pollution incidents and/or outfall inspections across the County.

The intern should have a strong interest in fieldwork and understanding of environmental policy. Experience with GIS is preferred but not required.

## Orange County Stormwater Tools



## Project 2: Water Quality Asset Management (North/South Watersheds Programs)

The intern will review Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) and utilize data collection tools associated with a proprietary asset management application ([OC Stormwater Tools](#)) to identify and geolocate structural water quality assets, delineate drainage areas, and evaluate the technical performance of identified assets. This work will assist in understanding and modeling the performance of these assets. The intern may also assist in maintaining regulatory compliance with Orange County's municipal stormwater permits.

The intern will assist in: 1) reviewing WQMPs; 2) populating jurisdictional water quality asset inventories; 3) collecting field data and logging information; 4) interpreting technical specifications or engineering calculations, as needed; and 5) support the program management staff with tracking regulatory items and coordinating committees comprised of key stormwater stakeholders.

The intern should have a strong interest in regulatory compliance and water quality, have reliable transportation, be comfortable with independent fieldwork, and be able to interact with County staff or consultants.



## Project 3: Water Quality Monitoring Support (North/South Watersheds Programs)

This internship will support various water quality monitoring activities throughout the County at channels, creeks, outfalls, estuaries, and coastal ocean for physical, chemical, and biological (including microbial) analyses. The monitoring data will then be used in various compliance, investigative, and research projects and programs to better understand aquatic resources.

The intern will assist with: 1) field monitoring support for permit compliance; 2) conducting sanitary surveys, microbial source tracking, and supporting other field work with a consultant team and watershed cities at various locations in the Newport Bay watershed as part of a microbial source investigation project; 3) monitoring of storm drain outfalls; 4) using a laboratory information management system; and/or 5) other monitoring and research projects.

The intern should have a strong interest in fieldwork and water quality science. Experience in field work is a plus.

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## **Project 4: LID/LAMP** (North OC Watersheds Program)

This project combines work on two different programs.

**Low Impact Development (LID):**  
The intern will work with County staff and external researchers to assess OC Public Works Glassell Campus Stormwater Low Impact Development Retrofit Project which uses a series of best management practices including permeable paving, bioswales, and cisterns to treat and retain stormwater. The project will include: 1) monitoring; 2) assessing and documenting maintenance; and 3) performance testing and research. The intern may be trained to lead tours of the project for visiting groups.

### **Local Agency Management Program (LAMP):**

The intern will work with County staff and consultants on the Local Agency Management Program which allows local agencies to approve onsite wastewater treatment systems based on local ordinances. The intern will: 1) track regulatory updates and LAMP adoption; 2) ascertain and confirm locations of septic systems within Orange County; 3) assess program informational material needs; and 4) utilize GIS mapping and data management.

The intern should have a strong interest in stormwater and water quality issues and good interpersonal skills. Experience with GIS is preferred but not required.



## **Past Intern Experiences**

*“This internship provided me with valuable knowledge of water quality and the tools used in testing. It is rewarding to know the work you are doing will be beneficial to the environment and society working as a team!”*

- Boaz C., Summer 2021

*“I had an amazing time getting to know everyone, and learning about the stormwater program helped me earn my current position! On days when I was out in the field with other team members felt like going for a casual hike with friends.”*

- Kody K., Summer 2021

*“The internship allowed me to gain essential field experience, and I gained so much knowledge about what I want to do with my career. Everyone is so helpful, and you can ask them anything.”*

- Jaycee C., Summer 2021

*“I felt very welcomed and at home during my time with OC Environmental Resources. The team was always approachable and willing to let me assist with or shadow various projects virtually and in the field.”*

- Sydney E., Summer 2021