

## Who we are:

The Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of our natural environment by:

- Protecting and promoting human health and safety.
- Protecting and improving the quality of Tennessee's land, air and water.
- Conserving and promoting natural cultural and historic resources.
- Providing a variety of quality outdoor recreational experiences.

TDEC has approximately 3,000 employees statewide supported by a total budget of more than \$400 million. TDEC is the chief environmental and natural resource regulatory agency in Tennessee with delegated responsibility from the U.S. EPA to regulate

## About the Division of Water Resources (DWR):

The Division of Water Resources is responsible for managing, protecting and enhancing the quality of the state's water resources through voluntary, regulatory and educational programs. The Division provides regulatory oversight for public drinking water systems and supplies, issues permits for discharges, alterations and activities protective of Tennessee's water resources. DWR monitors and models the health of Tennessee's water resources and provides outreach and education in and about Tennessee's watersheds.

## Internship Division of Water Resources Cookeville Environmental Field Office Internship Cookeville, TN

### Overview

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), is excited to offer an outstanding opportunity for college students to have an internship with our Division of Water Resources in our Cookeville Environmental Field Office. Students will gain an understanding of how our agency works to protect and improve water quality in Tennessee. Internship candidates must be currently enrolled in a college or university focusing on a degree in Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Geology; other related fields will be considered. Candidates must receive college credit for the internship experience.

Students will learn about conducting chemical and biological monitoring of local rivers/streams, understand guidelines for inspections of regulated facilities, and how our field team provides technical assistance to our multicounty customers to protect or improve water resources. Field work includes walking in uneven, muddy and steep terrain during wet, dry, hot and cold climatic conditions, flowing water of varying depth and velocity, and may include encounters with environmental hazards (poison ivy, insects, snakes, etc.). It will be a lot of fun and exercise!

**Please note that TDEC will observe appropriate Covid-19 guidelines during this internship.**

### Responsibilities

- Work directly with our field team in the environmental regulatory career field.
- Conduct data entry and data review related to water quality permits.
- Collect in-stream biological samples (aquatic macroinvertebrates) and habitat assessments.
- Accompany field staff during permitting procedures and final inspection of Sub-Surface Sewage Disposal Systems.
- Accompany staff during inspections of regulated water treatment facilities when possible.
- Learn how field equipment is calibrated and cleaned.

To be considered for this unpaid internship, students need to submit their resume, cover letter, and information outlining college credit requirements to [Deanna.Jones@tn.gov](mailto:Deanna.Jones@tn.gov). Additional information regarding TDEC's internship requirements are highlighted on TDEC's website: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/about-tdec/employment-and-internships.html>

*Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State's policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person's race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.*