

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.

We foster a work environment that's inclusive as well as diverse, where our people can be themselves. Every idea and perspective are valued so that our culture reflects the people we serve.

Our Department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environment that goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity and increased quality of life in Tennessee. We deliver on our mission through managing regulatory programs that maintain standards for air, water and soil quality while providing assistance to businesses and communities in areas ranging from recreation to waste management. We manage the state park system and programs to inventory, interpret and protect Tennessee's rich natural, historical, and archaeological heritage.

About the Office of External Affairs:

The Office of External Affairs serves as the primary point of contact for external stakeholders for environmental concerns across the state, through their eight (8) regions. Regional Directors actively work with local and state officials, business and industry, the general public, community development representatives, and environmental groups. The External Affairs team also serves as key representatives for coordinating and facilitating public meetings, regulatory hearings, information sessions, and community engagement opportunities to ensure TDEC is inclusive while meeting its mission.



Internship Department of Environment and Conservation Office of External Affairs Knoxville Environmental Field Office

Overview

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is excited to offer an outstanding opportunity for college students to intern with our Division of External Affairs (OEA) in our Knoxville Environmental Field Office. Students will gain an understanding of how OEA provides outreach and communication to external stakeholders, including local and other government agencies, the regulated community, public interest groups, and citizens. Internship candidates must currently be enrolled in a college or university focusing on a degree in Business, Public Relations, Communications, Sustainability, or others and have an interest in environmental policy or environmental sciences. Candidates must receive college credit for the internship experience.

We are seeking a student with excellent customer service skills, experience planning and organizing projects and events, problem-solving capabilities, and the ability to work toward conflict resolution. Proficiency in Microsoft Office products is necessary. Students who have conducted research and data analysis will be considered preferred candidates. Knowledge and use of design software are a plus.

General Responsibilities

- Participate with the development of outreach, educational tools and materials to support accurate, useful, timely and targeted communications to stakeholders.
- Assist TDEC to build mutually beneficial regional relationships with stakeholders by researching, planning and developing materials and products that further departmental initiatives.
- Assist with planning and logistics for special events.
- Work with content creation and research for the OEA monthly newsletter.
- Plan and attend public hearings and official meetings when scheduled.

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.

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.