



## Ecology Internship

### Hellbender Field Technician Internship

Description: The Hellbender Field Technician will assist Ecology staff with fieldwork associated with our Eastern hellbender head-start program including monitoring of released individuals, collection of environmental data, and collection of Environmental DNA (eDNA) samples across sites in West Virginia and Ohio. The intern will also assist with hellbender releases and egg collections as well as hellbender care in our head-start facility.

Proposed timing of internship: 6 months, April/May-Sept/Oct (flexible start time)

#### Goals:

The Hellbender Field Technician will gain hands-on experience with conducting surveys for PIT tagged released individuals, collecting environmental data, collecting and processing eDNA samples, and caring for aquatic salamanders. They will learn about the head-start program and various monitoring techniques in which we collaborate with state agencies and make a direct impact on the conservation of threatened and declining native wildlife species.

#### Requirements

- Second Year College Student or recent graduate (2 years or less) in Ecology, Biology, Natural Resource Management, Restoration, Wildlife Management, or related field.
- Ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:00pm. Very occasionally on a weekend day if available.
- Ability to adhere to standard operating procedures including but not limited to safety protocols required.
- Position requires hiking and some physically demanding tasks, including outdoor work throughout the seasons. This may include hot, buggy, cold or otherwise challenging conditions. Participants should be prepared with appropriate field gear and footwear.
- Candidates should be eager for learning opportunities and willing to practice new skills independently.
- Apprentices must be responsible, flexible, self-motivated, and able to work effectively with limited supervision, as well as in a team setting.
- Able to lift and move up to 10lbs. constantly, 30lbs. frequently, and 50lbs. occasionally.
- Possession of a valid current state issued motor vehicle operator's license and a good driving record required.
- Ability to arrange for their own housing and transportation.
- Able to balance multiple assignments successfully.
- Ability to adhere to the Wilds drug-free workplace policy.
- Ability to successfully complete a criminal history background check.