



PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

NORTHEAST REGION

3917 MEMORIAL HIGHWAY DALLAS, PA 18612 | 1-833-742-4866 (PGC HUNT) 1-833-742-9453 (PGC WILD)

Summer Internship Program - 2024 Wildlife Management – Wildlife Habitat Management -Forestry

Internship Overview

Are you excited to begin a career in conservation but lack field training and experience? Do you want your first steps to contribute to the management and protection of wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping? If so, your goals align with the mission of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and our summer internship program is designed for you! Pennsylvania's wildlife agency seeks hard-working, highly motivated students eager to develop their conservation knowledge and skills while experiencing all the agency has to offer. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) Northeast Region will be offering numerous paid internships for the summer 2024 field season.

Available Opportunities and Learning Objectives:

Internship opportunities are available within three disciplines – forestry, habitat management, and wildlife management. Descriptions of each are provided below. We encourage you to apply to one or more opportunities depending on your interests. If awarded an internship, you will focus primarily on the designated subject area; however, exposure to and collaboration across disciplines will occur frequently and is considered an important part of the experience.

Habitat Management Internship (5 positions available)

Providing hunters, trappers, and wildlife enthusiasts access to premier wildlife habitats is key to our mission. Interns will be assigned to one of 5 land management groups responsible for state game lands covering more than 385,000 acres of habitat. Interns will gain hands-on experience in habitat management as they work side-by-side with habitat management crew members. They will learn how to safely operate farm implements and power/hand tools, and assist with maintenance and construction of gates, parking lots, boundary lines bridges and other infrastructure related projects. They will gain experience in enhancing herbaceous, shrubland, forested and wetland habitats, and be introduced to our comprehensive planning process which provides the foundation for all work completed within the state game lands system. Under supervision, interns can expect to learn about proper herbicide application (hand and mechanical) to treat invasive species, as well as the use of prescribed fire to enhance habitats.

Locations of Positions:

1. *Habitat Management Internship* working in Luzerne, Carbon, and Monroe Counties. Working from habitat crew headquarters located near Wilkes-Barre, Jim Thorpe, or Tobyhanna.
2. *Habitat Management Internship* working in Wyoming and Sullivan Counties. Working from habitat crew headquarters located near Forkston or Benton.
3. *Habitat Management Internship* working in Pike and Wayne Counties. Working from habitat crew headquarters located near Shohola and Rileyville.
4. *Habitat Management Internship* working in Northumberland, Montour, or Columbia Counties. Working from habitat crew headquarters near Millville and Dornsife.
5. *Habitat Management Internship* working in Bradford or Susquehanna Counties. Working from habitat crew headquarters near Hallstead, West Burlington, and Wyalusing.

Wildlife Management Internship (2 positions)

Work Location (*Northeast Regional Office*)

This internship will offer real-world experience in the field of wildlife management. Interns will be paired with agency biologists and assist with wildlife management duties. Duties will include black bear capture and tagging, acoustic sampling (bats & N. flying squirrels), nest box surveys, waterfowl, mourning dove and owl banding, trap maintenance, habitat plan development, and various other wildlife and habitat surveys. Agency biologists will relate how data gathered impacts management decisions and population goals. Collaboration across professional disciplines will be encouraged to enhance outcomes and related objectives. Interns will also gain experience in equipment operation (GPS, UTV, kayak, motorboat, 4X4 and hand and power tools). Projects will occur throughout the NE region; however, daily reporting will be to one of the above general locations.

Forestry Internship (2 positions)

The selected intern will assist the Northeast Region forestry staff with the development, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of activities designed to manage, protect, and enhance forest resources on State Game Lands within the Northeast Region of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. This work may include but is not limited to marking and surveying boundary on wildlife habitat improvement projects, marking timber and determining volumes, reserve trees, collecting stand data, assisting with the chemical control of undesirable plants in forest stands, collecting State Game Lands data for input into the GIS database, assisting with prescribed fire activities, and performing other duties as assigned. All common forestry tools will be utilized in the completion of assigned work.

PGC internships will expose students to a variety of PGC work, including wildlife management, habitat management and forestry.

Salary and Starting Date: Engineering, Scientific & Technical Intern
\$16.67hour for 40 hours/week
Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (subject to change)
Maximum of 749 hours/calendar year
Anticipated starting date: May 1, 2024*
Anticipated ending date: August 18, 2024*

Subject to change based on student availability before/after these dates

Job Requirements and Qualifications:

Work will be outdoors and involve traversing uneven terrain in all-weather conditions. The selected applicant must have a valid driver's license. Preferred candidates will have college level course work or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, or natural resource management. Forestry applicants must have successfully completed a college-level field dendrology course.

- **Must be enrolled as a full-time student – carrying 12 credits.**
- **Student must be enrolled in a post-secondary program in a technical, scientific, or engineering field of study. School credit will be determined by the college/university.**
- **A graduating High School student who is 18 and enrolled in the fall semester is eligible to apply.**

Qualifications:

- Hard working and motivated
- Positive attitude and eager to learn
- Professional communication skills
- Open to collaboration/working with others
- Supportive of PGC's mission to manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.
- Valid driver's license
- Preferred candidates will have college-level coursework or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, natural resource management, environmental education, communications, and/or marketing.

Additional Information:

You will participate in training the first week of your internship. This training will expose you to our culture and provide an overall picture of our agency/region. This introduction will provide a knowledge base to draw upon for the remainder of the internship and beyond.

Rewards:

Our goal is to mentor and recruit the next generation of conservation professionals. As an intern, you will explore career and agency opportunities, gaining an inside look into your future. You will develop specialized skill sets through hands-on application while being mentored by professionals within your field of study. You will receive a midterm and final evaluation, providing a forum for constructive feedback and questions. You will collaborate with other conservationists and participate in agency meetings, forming relationships you can build on in the future. Finally, interns who successfully complete the program may be considered for future employment opportunities with our agency.

To Apply:

Persons who wish to apply for the position must be a student who will return to college in the fall of the same year of employment. ****All interested persons must mail a current resume and proof of college enrollment which must include students' name/ID number, University/College they are attending, the degree and courses they are enrolled in and number credits to the address listed below.**** Microsoft Teams Interviews will be conducted to select the employee. No phone interviews will be conducted. All resumes must be received **on or before February 16, 2024**. Email address: PGC_NE_Summer_Internship@pa.gov

Send Cover Letter, Resume & Proof of College Enrollment to:

PGC_NE_Summer_Internship@pa.gov

Questions:

Questions for Wildlife Management Internships should be directed to Kevin Wenner at kewenner@pa.gov

Questions for Habitat Management Internships should be directed to Justin Klugh at jklugh@pa.gov

Questions for Forestry Internships should be directed to Warren Harris at wharris@pa.gov