

Pinellas County Oyster Shell Recycling Internship

Description: Opportunity to gain paid professional experience working with Pinellas County's Oyster Recycling Pilot Program. This program is designed to collaborate with local restaurants throughout Pinellas County to collect and cure used oyster shell. It will be a combination of physical labor in collection of oyster shell and administrative duties in outreach, educational materials, and data management.

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance intends to fund a paid internship within Pinellas County's Division of Environmental Management for an undergraduate student from groups currently underrepresented in environmental sciences, marine sciences, engineering, environmental education, or similar disciplines.

Internships paid by the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA): GOMA, a non-profit organization, is a partnership of the five Gulf States that supports a broad network of federal agencies, academic organizations, businesses, and other non-profits in the Gulf Coast region. The mission of GOMA is to enhance the environmental and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico through increased regional collaboration.

Specific Duties:

- Pick up and deliver recycled shell bins and buckets from participating restaurants throughout Pinellas County, safely operating Pinellas County trucks on a weekly basis.
- Transport and empty the collected shell at a curing location within Pinellas County.
- Collect and manage data on shell amounts and other components of the recycling program.
- Work independently or with a team to clean and prepare oyster shells for restoration.
- Operate or work in close proximity to machinery or tools used to clean and cure shell.
- Work in close proximity to heavy equipment such as flatbed trucks, bobcats, or forklifts.
- Manually shovel, lift, and bag oyster shell for restoration.
- Clean large buckets of shell for redistribution to restaurants.
- Participate in outreach and restoration activities.
- Continually evaluate and recommend changes to the program to increase efficiency and program viability.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Current enrollment as an undergraduate in an accredited college or university.
- Minimum of 18 completed semester credit hours from an accredited college or university at the time of application.
- Must have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 grade point scale or "Pass" on a Pass/Fail system.
- Ability to lift heavy objects, approximately 30 lbs.
- Ability to work in inclement weather conditions such as rain, heat, and high humidity.
- Ability to work shifts including early morning or late afternoon depending on project needs.
- Valid Florida driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with Microsoft excel and data management
- Some experience driving large pickup truck

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Position Details and Benefits:

- The position is in-person, 20 hours a week over 2-3 days, hours flexible/to be determined, without benefits.
- The weekly compensation is \$375.00/week, total compensation of \$5,625 for the semester.
- Position will start in mid-January, 2024, and conclude at the end of the spring semester (approximately 15 weeks total).

How to Apply:

- Fill out the application form at this link: <https://forms.gle/JZDki9XELdxTG7f86>
- Email **resume, and cover letter** to Christine Joyner, Volunteer and Internship Site Coordinator, at: cjoyner@pinellas.gov

Deadline for applications is November 27, 2023.