

# Pinellas County Oyster Shell Recycling and Red Tide Monitoring

**Description:** Opportunity to gain paid professional experience working with Pinellas County's Oyster Recycling Pilot Program and also participate in Red Tide Monitoring. The oyster recycling program is designed to collaborate with local restaurants throughout Pinellas County to collect and cure oyster shell for restoration. It will be a combination of physical labor in collection of oyster shell and administrative duties in outreach, educational materials, and data management. Additionally, intern will collect water samples from beaches for red tide monitoring purposes.

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:**

- Twice a week, pick up recycled shell in buckets from participating restaurants throughout Pinellas County and redistribute clean buckets, safely operating Pinellas County trucks on a weekly basis.
- Transport and empty the collected shell at a curing location within Pinellas County.
- Manually shovel oyster shell during the curing process.
- Clean buckets for redistribution to restaurants.
- Collect and manage data on shell amounts and other components of the recycling program.
- Participate in communication and outreach to the restaurants. Continually evaluate and recommend changes to the program to increase efficiency and program viability.
- Once or twice a week, collect water samples at 5 to 8 beach locations for red tide analysis. This involves wading into water to about mid-thigh level.

## **Minimum Qualifications:**

- Current enrollment as an undergraduate in an accredited college or university, OR recent graduate (within past 6 months).
- Minimum of 60 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 work Mondays and Fridays 8:00 am-4:00 pm, and flexible mid-week shift 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Ability to lift heavy objects, approximately 30 lbs.
- Ability to work in inclement weather conditions such as rain, heat, and high humidity.
- Valid Florida driver's license.
- Must be able to swim.

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## Preferred Qualifications:

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

## Position Details and Benefits:

- The position is in-person, approximately 20 hours a week over 2 to 3 days.
- **Mondays and Fridays are required**, at least 6 hours, with additional flexible mid-week shift of 4 to 6 hours.
- The weekly compensation is \$375.00/week for a total of 10 weeks, without benefits. Total compensation of \$3,750 for the summer semester.
- Position will start in mid- to late- May 2024, and conclude at the end of the summer semester (10 weeks total, with some flexibility in start and end date).

## How to Apply:

- Fill out the application form at this link: <https://forms.gle/3JSJqd6N2tBNAhCH8>
- Email **resume, and cover letter** to Christine Davies, Volunteer and Internship Site Coordinator, at: [cdavies@pinellas.gov](mailto:cdavies@pinellas.gov)

**Deadline for applications is May 3, 2024.**