

# **West Virginia Water Research Institute Outreach and Engagement Student Worker Position Description**

The West Virginia Water Research Institute (WVWRI) is seeking an Outreach and Engagement Student Worker for the Fall 2024 semester and beyond. The undergraduate student worker will support program staff by working on the Three Rivers QUEST program activities and other projects managed by WVWRI, including water research projects, acid mine drainage remediation projects, and more.

The West Virginia Water Research Institute (WVWRI), a program of the National Research Center for Coal and Energy at West Virginia University, has been actively researching water-related issues since 1967. The Three Rivers QUEST (3RQ) program at WVWRI monitors rivers, tributaries and headwater streams that drain an area of over 25,000 square miles in five states. It brings together academic researchers, citizen scientists, and conservation groups to collect, analyze, and monitor important water quality data. Resultant data is displayed to provide the public, other researchers, federal and state agencies, and industry with timely and accurate information as it pertains to the overall health of our local rivers and streams. We are seeking undergraduate student support for outreach and engagement across WVU as well as local communities.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Assist with planning for the new [Common Waters](#) initiative.
- Engage with staff, students, and community groups to learn about their projects.
- Create outreach materials including social media posts, short articles, webpages, and posters.
- Assist with the planning and preparation for outreach events such as virtual seminars.
- Perform desktop research looking into various issues or solving specific problems. Summarize findings and share conclusions.
- Enter and organize information in Excel spreadsheets and keep detailed notes.
- Provide additional support as needed for various water research and remediation projects.

#### **Qualifications:**

- Enrolled as an undergraduate student at West Virginia University.
- Communicates well and is a proactive, independent worker.
- Passionate about the environment or community engagement.
- Experienced in Microsoft Excel.

#### **Preferred Qualifications:**

- Experienced in informal education, graphic design, or social media management.
- Knowledge of local environmental issues.
- General knowledge of ArcGIS Online or StoryMaps.

This position requires initiative, attention to detail, strong organizational skills, and creative thinking. Office work includes but is not limited to computer research, creating outreach materials, responding to and composing emails, and assisting with correspondence and project files. This student may assist with field work as their schedule allows. Fieldwork may include the collection of water quality samples, collecting macroinvertebrates, and taking soil samples for lab analysis.

Eligible applicants must be enrolled in an undergraduate program in a relevant field.

To apply, please apply to the job posting on Handshake. For more information on WVWRI or Three Rivers QUEST, visit <https://www.wvri.wvu.edu/home> or <https://3riversquest.wvu.edu/>.