



Watershed Research Fellowship

Bayou City Waterkeeper in Houston, Texas, seeks Watershed Research fellows through our paid fellowship program every fall, spring and summer. Watershed Research fellows report directly to Bayou City Waterkeeper's Community Science Manager.

About us

Bayou City Waterkeeper is a regional watershed organization based in Houston, Texas. For nearly 20 years, our mission has been to protect the bayous, creeks, bays, and wetlands within the [Lower Galveston Bay watershed](#) alongside the people who depend on them. Weaving together law and science, we work with local communities to build power, fill gaps in regulatory enforcement, and push back against irresponsible development. Learn more on [our website](#).

Why our work matters

Our largely coastal, low-lying region - comprising ten counties and over 4000 square miles - has lived through storm surges, high winds, and widespread flooding from intense storms over the last 15 years. Amplifying the worst effects of each disaster are longtime underinvestment in flood prevention, lax attitudes toward land use, and historic red-lining practices, which have driven over-development of ecologically-sensitive floodplains and exposed communities to unhealthy pollution. Despite our region being the country's most diverse, these problems already disproportionately affect low-income and Black and brown communities.

These factors offer us the potential to build a model of how a region may confront climate change, and not just survive, but thrive, over the next several decades. Each storm has brought with it opportunities to undo systemic harms and invest in our future. By restoring our natural systems, we can reduce flooding, buffer storm surges, improve water quality, and bring justice to underserved communities - and position our watershed's communities to weather a changing climate into the 22nd century.

Commitment to justice, equity, diversity, & inclusion

The fight for equity and environmental justice run like threads through all our work. We are committed to showing up for the communities most affected by pollution and flooding, and within our organization, we value people of all experiences, backgrounds and perspectives and support and strive to cultivate leadership from the ground up.

Fellowship Opportunities

The Watershed Research Fellow will help analyze developments across the region for impacts on wetlands and community flood risk; prepare comment letters to governmental agencies; gather data and academic research about our region's most endangered wetlands and natural areas; and, on an as needed basis, visit sites to document on-the-ground impacts. Basic familiarity with Google Earth and ArcGIS a plus. Because most of the work for this internship may be done remotely, interns will need to have access to a personal computer at their homes.

Qualifications

Ideal candidates will have previous academic experience conducting research and writing research papers. We prefer students pursuing graduate studies or undergraduate students in their junior or senior years of college, with backgrounds in natural or earth sciences or similar fields of work.

(If you are an international student, we cannot review your application unless you are part of a program that arranges your paperwork; we cannot arrange an H1B visa.)

Hours and funding

Fellowships will run 12 weeks. Each fellowship will be supported by a \$1800 stipend for an average of 10 hours of work per week. As needed, we will work with fellows interested in earning academic or pro bono credit for their work or relying on external funding. Depending on funding, the fellowships may be renewed for additional semesters.

Application materials

Please submit the following to Mashal at careers@bayoucitywaterkeeper.org:

- A 2-3 paragraph email that identifies the fellowship you are applying for and explaining why you would like to serve as a fellow.
- Up-to-date resume

Thank you for your interest. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. To receive priority consideration, please submit applications for the fall by 5/15, the spring by 11/15, and summer by 2/15. All interviews will be via Google Meet.