GIS Fellow (Spring, Summer, Fall)

Bayou City Waterkeeper (BCWK) in Houston, Texas, seeks GIS fellows every fall, spring, and summer. Fellows report directly to BCWK’s Community Science Manager.

Overview of fellowship
Through this fellowship, you will maintain, update and visualize data related to water, infrastructure, and climate injustices affecting communities across greater Houston and learn more about working at the intersection of science and law at a small non-profit. In selecting fellows, we look for people who are eager to learn, are action-oriented, and want to advance water justice across Houston and the Gulf South.

About Bayou City Waterkeeper
Bayou City Waterkeeper is a water justice organization working across the Lower Galveston Bay watershed that encompasses greater Houston, for more than two decades. With law and science, we work with local communities to build power, fill gaps in regulatory enforcement, and push back against water injustices and irresponsible development. Our key program areas are Clean Water, Protecting Wetlands, and Just Climate Transitions. Learn more on our website.

Our values
In recognition of the complexities of our watershed, the challenges we face to protect our waters from the harms of urban development and industrial activities, and the importance of responding to communities’ needs, our work is guided and informed by five values:

- Interconnectivity: Collaborate across disciplines and create multiple ways to engage
- Fluidity: Embrace movement and adaptability in our work
- Bold action: Have hard conversations, disrupt dysfunctional systems, create new frameworks, bring together unconventional allies, move data and research into action
- Justice and equality: Call out and act to undo inequities in our watershed
- Regeneration: Water is a site for healing, joy, celebration, reflection, and growth

Responsibilities
Working under the supervision of our Community Science Manager, GIS Fellow is able to:

- comfortably work with Google Earth, QGIS and ArcGIS and online products, geospatial data management, and GIS application development and deployment
- multitask and have basic understanding of cartographic principles
- do occasional field work to capture and visualize qualitative data alongside community members
- Compile, organize and update data on our existing and future data to action tools, in collaboration with local partners
- write observations and conduct baseline analysis to share with local partners
- communicate tools with community members - bridging the information gap
- contribute to geographic data acquisition, data analysis, modeling, deployment and visualizations efforts
Qualifications & Requirements

Candidates must have the following to be considered for the role:

- Recent graduate in a relevant field or a senior or graduate level student
- International students: We cannot arrange an H1B visa.
- Because most of the work for this internship may be done remotely, interns will need to have access to a personal computer, compatible with ESRI software
- Fellow will be provided with ESRI license

Highly competitive candidates will also have the following:

- Interest in learning more about how data analysis and visualization can strengthen advocacy and gaining familiarity with environmental justice, and just climate transitions concepts
- Commitment to excellence in data analysis and visualization
- Comfort interpreting scientific and technical concepts
- Ability to translate technical concepts to non-technical audiences
- Strong interpersonal skills, self-awareness, and enthusiasm for teamwork
- Self-motivated, creative, organized, diligent, and efficient
- Commitment to centering impacted communities
- Commitment to racial justice, anti-racism, and pro-Blackness. Understanding of and commitment to advancing justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility
- Connection to and enthusiasm for the greater Houston region or the Gulf South

Academic credit and funding

Stipends are available that are roughly equivalent to $15/hour. We ask that students seek funding through their universities when possible to reserve stipend funds for students without similar funding options. We will work with you to meet any requirements for earning academic or pro bono credit and external funding. Depending on funding, the fellowships may be renewed for additional semesters.

Application instructions

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

- An email explaining why you would like to intern with us
- Up-to-date resume, which lists your GPA

Thank you for your interest. Applications are accepted, and offers are extended, on a rolling basis. To receive full consideration, please submit applications for summer by 2/15; fall by 5/15, and spring by 12/1. All interviews are virtual.

Our core values lead us to seek a broad range of perspectives and backgrounds to achieve our mission and maintain an inclusive environment where all staff are valued and respected. As an equal opportunity employer, we are committed to employment practices that ensure that employees and applicants for employment are given equal opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, religion, physical or mental disability, medical condition, veteran status, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information or any other factor that is not related to the position.