

# 2022-2023 AmeriCorps Member Position Description



**Partner Organization Name:** Pontchartrain Conservancy

**Corps Member Position Title:** Water Quality Technology Coordinator

**Supervisor:** Brady Skaggs

**Days/Hours of Service:** M-F, 9-5

**Physical Location:** 3501 N. Causeway Blvd, Suite 220

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## **Organization Mission and/or Goals:**

Pontchartrain Conservancy's mission is to drive environmental sustainability and stewardship through scientific research, education, and advocacy.

The Pontchartrain Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization consisting of a 14-member board of directors representing Basin parishes and regulatory agencies.

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin is a 10,000 square mile watershed encompassing 16 Louisiana parishes. The land use of the region is both rural and urban and is the most densely populated region in Louisiana, including metro New Orleans and the state capital, Baton Rouge. It is one of the largest estuarine systems in the Gulf of Mexico containing over 22 essential habitats. The Basin's topography ranges from rolling woodlands in the north to coastal marshes in the south, with the 630 square mile Lake Pontchartrain as its centerpiece.

## **Program Mission and/ or Goals:**

The focus of the Water Quality (WQ) Program is to enhance one of the region's best assets by monitoring water quality, tracing sources of pollution, assisting in the correction of failing wastewater systems, and by advocating for innovations in and implementation of green infrastructure and watershed management. Scientific research, education, and advocacy are the cornerstones of the department's work, implemented through its three focus areas: Wastewater Technical Assistance Program, The Basin Pollution Source Tracking Program, and Basin Monitoring Program

## **Member Position Summary:**

Water Quality Technology Coordinator

## **Essential Functions of Position:**

Specific tasks that will occur throughout the member's term include:

- Continued development and feature integration for the organization's app Lake & Coast, which was released as a first release in 2021. Knowledge of coding, mobile platform app development is a must;
- Assisting the WQ Program Director or an PC educator in an ongoing project built on Citizen Science: the member will be asked assist in building project data management systems (project examples include wastewater system inspection & quantification of plastics and algae by citizen participants);
- Water sample collection from water quality sites utilized in the Basin Wide Monitoring Program (microbiological samples, as well as water temperature, turbidity, salinity, conductivity, and dissolved oxygen are collected in situ); and
- Development of promotional materials for initiatives within the WQ program. The member would gain experience in developing print and electronic promotional items, the scientific data collection process and the scientific method. These tasks will be completed over the 11 months, and not all tasks listed above will be worked on every day/week.

## **Ideal Candidate Qualifications**

- Proficiency with code or program development, particularly on iOS and Android applications;
- Experience with Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint);
- Experience building webpages and webforms;
- Experience with Adobe or other illustrator programs;
- Willingness and capability to conduct field work, where conditions may include inclement weather (high heat and humidity, possible exposure to insect bites and sun);
- Suitable oral and written communication skills;
- Ability to communicate effectively with all parties;
- Ability to stay organized, multitask, and be efficient;
- Willingness to be adaptable; and
- Ability to work effectively in a team environment.

Computer Science or Computer Engineering focus preferred, consideration also given to undergraduate degree in Science with a demonstration of application development (Biology, Geology, or Environmental Science)

## **Required Transportation Requirements (ex: own vehicle or able bike to site)**

Transportation to offices are necessary. Those commuting by car will be provided a parking location; PC will also accommodate those that prefer to bike to work. PC maintains a fleet of vehicles for individuals that are licensed to drive on