



Job Opening

The River Institute has an opening for a **Field & Laboratory Technician (summer student) position**.

River Institute Background:

The River Institute non-profit, charitable organization that undertakes research, education, and community outreach to protect and conserve the St. Lawrence River and other freshwater ecosystems. We offer a great team environment and the opportunity to work with an experienced and energetic staff. The River Institute has received national and international awards for its contributions to science programming, including science education and for raising awareness and support for environmental protection and restoration issues.

Field and Laboratory Technician

St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences, Cornwall, Ontario.

Job Description:

The employee will provide field and technical support for programs assessing water quality, habitats and biological communities in the St. Lawrence River ecosystem, including the conservation of biodiversity and species at risk. The employee will participate in a wide range of field sampling and assessment measures for aquatic and terrestrial species, as well will participate in laboratory, reporting and communication activities.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Perform field work to conduct water quality, habitat and biological surveys requiring knowledge of freshwater fish species, aquatic invertebrates and aquatic plants. Identification skills for these taxa is an asset. Work will involve sampling with a variety of equipment types to conduct field assessments and may occasionally be under adverse conditions (rain, warm weather, etc.) or at times outside of typical 8 am to 4 pm weekday hours.
- Obtain laboratory training and ISO 17025 accreditation standards.
- Perform laboratory-based activities, including support for general lab maintenance, and analyses related to environmental DNA samples, water quality and contaminant analyses.
- Maintain necessary paperwork and field records for data collection.
- Maintain field equipment.
- Participate in training workshops for fish and other aquatic species identification.

- Participate in habitat restoration activities such as augmenting spawning areas for fish or planting trees in riparian zones
- Perform data entry (Microsoft Excel), report writing, assist with research proposal preparations.
- Assist with data analysis using statistical and GIS software.
- Assist with training and mentoring programs, assisting students with laboratory and field tasks and grading of reports.
- Attend and assist with community events, workshops, presentations, and education programs related to projects.
- Perform other related duties as required.

Knowledge and skills:

The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications and abilities:

- College or University student with a focus or interest in environmental science, biology, life sciences, or other related discipline.
- Ability to work independently, exhibiting a high degree of initiative, self-discipline, and professionalism.
- Able to conduct field work that is physically demanding. Habitat restoration activities may be especially demanding (eg. carrying heavy equipment).
- Able to work in adverse weather conditions and warm summer weather.
- Project/time management skills and organizational skills.
- Ability to read and write well in English.
- Computer Skills i.e.: Microsoft Office and Geographical Information Systems
- Valid Driver's license an asset.
- Familiarity with working on or near the water and ability to obtain a Pleasure Craft Operators card.

Reports To: Program Leader, Research and Technical Services

Wage and Employment Conditions:

This is a 16-week summer contract position with an anticipated start date of May 1, 2024 (or thereabouts) and an hourly rate of \$18.00 (35 hours per week) Monday to Friday, 8 to 4 pm.

Interested candidates should email a cover letter and resume to jjarvis@riverinstitute.ca Office Coordinator, indicating "CNFASAR Field & Laboratory Technician Summer Student" in the subject line.

The River Institute is committed to enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in its staff and programs. To hire a diverse team, we are committed to training employees who may not have all the required formal experience but can explain in their cover letter how they meet the job requirements and are willing to learn the necessary.