Ecological Benefits Modeling Internship
The U. S. National Park Service, National Capital Region

Description: The position will be a University of Maryland-based, flexible, full-time, paid internship. The U. S. National Park Service (NPS) National Capital Region (NCR), Office of Natural Resources and Science (NRS) is seeking an upper level student with a background in Forestry, Arboriculture, Modelling Ecological Benefits, or related fields. The intern will use iTree Eco, a modeling program, to quantify changes in benefits of trees over time on National Park land in the National Capital Region. The intern will have the opportunity to analyze the relative ecological benefits conferred by trees using 10 years of data from 425 vegetation plots across the region. Additionally, the intern should have access to a computer with experience in analysis, modeling, scaling up, and be able to quantify ecological benefits. The highly urbanized and rapidly growing region around NCR parks makes them increasingly important as a critical refugia for biodiversity as species expand their ranges from the south in response to climate change. We anticipate that the internship will begin in May 2019 and continue through August 2019. Students must be enrolled in a degree program for the duration of the internship.

The intern will work closely with the NPS Urban Ecology Research Learning Alliance’s Science Education Coordinator. The intern will have the opportunity to present findings to NPS staff in the National Capital Region. This position will begin in May 2019 and end in August 2019; start and end dates are flexible. Hours are full-time for 10-12 weeks. The bulk of work is by telework with limited site visits to regional parks and UERLA in Washington, DC. Project mentors will include NPS staff in the UERLA and the Office of Natural Resources and Sciences.

About UERLA: UERLA is a National Park Service Research Learning Center that serves 16 parks in National Capital Region. We translate complex research results into readily understandable information, providing research, education, and technical assistance for parks. UERLA also provides science communication outreach to park managers and external audiences via websites, workshops, and publications. UERLA maintains research and education partnerships with universities, not-for-profit, education, and other federal agencies. The education activities of UERLA include providing training opportunities for NPS staff and partners, participating in science education programs, and building external partnerships that support science education in parks. Within the Natural Resources and Science Office, other science programs, such as botany, wildlife, geology, air resources, and inventory and monitoring, aquatic ecology work with the Urban Ecology Research Learning Alliance on interdisciplinary projects.

How to Apply: If interested, provide a current resume with references, transcripts, and letter of interest electronically to Ann_Gallagher@nps.gov, Science Education Coordinator, Urban Ecology Research Learning Alliance, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 4598 MacArthur Blvd., NW, Washington, DC 20007, Cell: (202) 322-9888. Please use the subject line ‘Ecobenefits of Park Trees’.

The deadline for applying is February 15, 2019 at 5 pm ET. We expect to begin to interview candidates the week of February 25, 2019.