

El Cajon Community Outreach Intern

About the San Diego River Park Foundation Internship Program: Founded in 2001, we are a nonprofit, environmental organization dedicated to the restoration of the San Diego River and creation of the San Diego River Park System. More info at www.sandiegoriver.org.

We seek outgoing and hardworking interns, who are passionate about environmental conservation and community building. Internships at the San Diego River Park Foundation are highly collaborative and feature on-the-job learning for students interested in nonprofits and local environmental issues.

The San Diego River Park Foundation is embarking on a special project along a tributary of the San Diego River called Forester Creek. This tributary is located almost entirely within the City of El Cajon. As part of the project, the organization will be working with volunteers to determine where trash is entering the tributary. Additionally, the community will work together to create a new recreation plan for the tributary, possibly to include things like murals, outdoor spaces, and bike paths.

Job Description: The Community Outreach Intern connects people in the San Diego region and beyond with our namesake waterway, the San Diego River, and its local tributaries. This person will attend public events as a representative of the San Diego River Park Foundation, promoting environmental awareness and volunteerism.

Duties:

- Attend, set up, and staff outreach booths at community events throughout San Diego County, and in particular El Cajon.
- Increase public awareness of Forester Creek and its connection to the San Diego River.
- Educate the public on the San Diego River Park Foundation's mission, current projects, and volunteer opportunities.
- Encourage members of the public to join the public planning process or volunteer.
- Represent the San Diego River Park Foundation in a positive and professional manner.
- Administer surveys to event attendees and distribute giveaways.
- Prepare, pack, and unload supplies before and after events.
- Attend trash clean up events. Help set-up, sign in volunteers, lead small volunteer groups, and clean up.
- Assist with survey data entry and processing.
- Work with diverse audiences of all ages and backgrounds, including non-English speakers.

Time Commitment: 5-12 hours/week: Hours vary depending on weekly outreach schedule. Hours requirements for school can be accommodated. This internship is best suited for applicants with flexible schedules.

Desired Qualifications:

- Friendly, personable character.
- Excellent customer service skills.
- Interest in environmental issues impacting the San Diego Region.
- Passion for environmental stewardship and community involvement.
- Flexible schedule with weekend and evening availability.
- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Must have access to reliable transportation that can be used to transport supplies to events. Must be willing to travel for events, particularly to El Cajon.
- Must be able to lift 50 pounds.
- Experience working with non-English speakers is a plus. Fluency in Spanish or Arabic preferred.

Benefits:

- Gain experience working in a well-established, successful environmental non-profit.
- Improve communication skills by interacting with diverse audiences across San Diego County.
- Learn about environmental stewardship projects related to the ecology of the San Diego River.
- Be part of planning process and help to shape the future of a local community.
- Be a part of an amazing team of passionate staff and volunteers dedicated to the protection of the San Diego River.
- Help make San Diego a more environmentally aware and engaged city!
- Class credit, if offered by your learning institution

To apply:

Please email the following materials together in one email:

1. A resume (maximum of two pages)
2. A cover letter stating why this internship will benefit you

Please send all application materials to Marina Varano, Outreach Associate, at marina@sandiegoriver.org. If you have any questions regarding the application process or the internship please email the above address or call 619-297-7380.