

Summer Internship Program – Pinelands Alliance

Stipend | Hybrid | Summer 2026 (roughly June 1-August 14, flexible start and end dates)

Pinelands Alliance offers a stipend-paid, multidisciplinary summer internship program for college students and recent graduates interested in environmental protection, public policy, communications, and nonprofit operations. Interns work on meaningful projects while learning about the Pinelands through a shared weekly seminar series and field-based experiences. High school students are also welcome to join for seminar days (Tuesdays) and/or propose a volunteer project.

Program Structure

- **Compensation:** \$500 biweekly stipend
- **Time Commitment:**
 - 3 days per week (approximately 20 hours)
 - Interns may work up to 5 days per week if desired (stipend remains the same)
- **Format:** Hybrid
 - One required weekly **seminar day in the office (mostly Tuesdays)**
 - Two+ days per week remote or in-office, arranged flexibly with your supervisor, performing guided work
 - In addition to guided work days, plan and execute an independent project
- **Transportation:** Reliable transportation to the Southampton, NJ area is strongly preferred
- **Supervision:** Each intern will have **two supervisors**, depending on project preferences
- **Academic Credit:** College credit may be arranged if desired

Weekly Seminar Day

All interns participate in a shared weekly seminar (on a fixed day of the week, mostly Tuesdays) designed to introduce different areas of Pinelands Alliance's work and partner organizations. Topics and activities may include:

- Pinelands history and the Comprehensive Management Plan
- Watershed management and climate resilience/nature-based solutions/green stormwater infrastructure
- Sustainable agriculture and tour/work on [Rancocas Creek Farm](#)
- Public lands management, with hiking or kayaking in the Pinelands
- Wildlife rehabilitation: visit to [Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge](#)
- Disability advocacy and accessible trail work
- Environmental Advocacy and visit to the State House
- Scientific Research, and tour of [Pinelands Research Institute](#)

Interns should plan to attend all seminar days but may miss up to **two** over the course of the summer.

Internship Tracks

Applicants should indicate their preference for **one or two** of the following project areas.

Social Media Marketing Intern

Reports to: Communications Manager and Policy Director

Overview

Pinelands Alliance is seeking a creative, self-motivated intern with experience creating engaging TikTok content to help establish and grow the organization's presence on the platform. This role focuses on translating complex environmental and policy issues into accessible, compelling short-form content while supporting broader outreach and education efforts.

Responsibilities

- Develop social media content for TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook highlighting campaigns and policy priorities
- Help establish a consistent tone, style, and content strategy for TikTok
- Assist with writing and editing blog posts on environmental and policy topics
- Support community outreach initiatives, including planning and promoting educational trivia nights and events
- Collaborate with staff to engage new and younger audiences on environmental issues

Qualifications

- Experience creating content for TikTok (personal, academic, or organizational accounts welcome)
- Strong storytelling and writing skills
- Interest in environmental protection, sustainability, or public policy
- Comfortable working independently and collaboratively
- Familiarity with basic video editing tools is a plus

Skills Gained

- Nonprofit digital communications strategy
 - Translating complex policy issues for public audiences
 - Content creation for advocacy campaigns
 - Professional portfolio development
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Grant Research & Operations Intern

Reports to: Director of Enterprises

Overview

The Grant Research & Operations Intern supports organizational growth and sustainability by assisting with grant research, funding intelligence, and learning-focused operational analysis. This role provides exposure to nonprofit finance and public funding systems while contributing real value through structured research support.

Responsibilities

- Research and monitor grant opportunities from public agencies, foundations, and corporate funders
- Track eligibility requirements, funding ranges, deadlines, and geographic focus
- Maintain a centralized grant tracking database
- Screen opportunities using structured checklists and flag high-potential grants for review
- Assist with grant reporting timeline tracking and budget review (learning-oriented)
- Identify trends in funding priorities and prepare brief insight summaries

Qualifications

- Strong research, organizational, and analytical skills
- Comfort working with spreadsheets (Excel or Google Sheets)
- Interest in nonprofit finance, operations, or organizational sustainability

Skills Gained

- Understanding of public and private funding systems
- Grant lifecycle fundamentals
- Nonprofit budgeting and planning exposure
- Professional research and data organization skills

Policy Intern – Green Amendment

Works with: Director of Watershed Programs and Policy Director

Overview

This internship focuses on advancing Green Amendment advocacy through outreach, education, and policy engagement. Interns will support efforts to communicate environmental rights concepts to diverse audiences and engage communities and decision-makers.

Responsibilities

- Develop outreach and educational materials for a range of audiences
- Conduct outreach to communities, businesses, and stakeholder groups
- Attend meetings and community events as needed
- Create social media content across Pinelands Alliance platforms
- Assist with outreach to state legislators and local governments

Qualifications

- Interest in environmental advocacy, public policy, or environmental justice
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Comfort engaging with diverse audiences
- Ability to work independently while collaborating with staff

Skills Gained

- Environmental policy advocacy experience
 - Public-facing outreach and messaging skills
 - Understanding of environmental rights frameworks
 - Experience working with legislators and local governments
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Policy Intern – Government and Civic Engagement

Works with: Policy Director and Director of Government Relations

Overview

The Civic Engagement Intern supports public participation in Pinelands governance by developing educational materials and assisting with advocacy related to the Pinelands Commission and key land-use issues at the state and municipal levels.

Responsibilities

- Create educational materials that demystify the Pinelands Commission (guides, social media, blog posts)
- Attend most Pinelands Commission meetings ([schedule available on their website](#)), so the intern must be available ~50% of Fridays
- Assist with advocacy on priority issues such as data centers, artificial turf, deforestation, climate change, and plant protections

Qualifications

- Interest in civic engagement, public participation, or land-use policy
- Strong writing and research skills

- Ability to understand and summarize complex regulatory processes
- Comfort attending public meetings and engaging in advocacy settings

Skills Gained

- Understanding of New Jersey land-use governance
 - Public education and civic engagement strategies
 - Policy analysis and advocacy experience
 - Familiarity with regulatory decision-making processes
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Policy Intern – Watersheds

Works with: Director of Watershed Programs

Overview

The Watershed Policy Intern supports water quality protection efforts through data analysis, community outreach, fieldwork, and green infrastructure monitoring. This role blends policy, science, and hands-on environmental work.

Responsibilities

- Analyze publicly available data on watershed health
- Assist in developing “State of Your Watershed” presentations for communities
- Conduct outreach to educators to expand water quality monitoring and citizen science partnerships
- Monitor green infrastructure projects, assist with maintenance, and coordinate volunteers
- Observe pollinator activity at project sites
- Develop outreach materials and social media content on water-related issues
- Use GIS to map opportunities for green stormwater infrastructure and restoration
- Conduct site surveys and assist in identifying achievable water quality improvement goals

Qualifications

- Interest in watershed science, environmental policy, or ecology
- Comfort with data analysis and field-based work
- Willingness to participate in outdoor activities
- GIS experience is a plus but not required

Skills Gained

- Watershed assessment and monitoring experience

- Community-based environmental education skills
 - Green infrastructure and natural climate solutions knowledge
 - Applied GIS and field survey experience
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Application Instructions

To apply, please submit the following materials to heidi@pinelandsalliance.org:

- **A brief cover letter (one page maximum)** describing your interest in the internship program and indicating your preferred internship track(s), as well as general anticipated availability for in-person or remote work.
- **A résumé (1–2 pages)** outlining relevant experience, coursework, and skills

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, with priority given to applicants who submit by Friday, March 13, 2026.