



## Seasonal Internship Opportunity

### Communications Intern

### Summer 2023

#### **To Apply:**

Please submit a resume, three references, and cover letter describing your interest and qualifications for the position by March 31, 2023. Applications will be reviewed after submittal. You can submit your materials electronically to Aimee Petras; [apetras@frwa.org](mailto:apetras@frwa.org)

#### **Position Description:**

FRWA is looking for a communications intern who is interested in working at a small environmental nonprofit doing public outreach and events that connect the community and benefit the Farmington River Watershed. The individual must be comfortable communicating with a broad range of audience types. Outreach and education in the watershed includes working with municipalities, schools, organizations and the watershed community. Be able to assist with FRWA's website, e-newsletter, and social media platforms by; tracking and enhancing the reach of posts; taking photos for posts and publications; updating FRWA website; creating e-newsletters. Assist in developing strategies to constituents and general administrative support. Design and create visual content based on our scientific data. Help FRWA communicate our findings to a broad audience.

The communications intern will be based in FRWA's office in Simsbury, CT. Responsibilities are typical for entry-level professional positions in watershed associations. The position entails travel throughout watershed towns as needed. The towns include Avon, Barkhamsted, Bloomfield, Bristol, Burlington, Canton, Colebrook, East Granby, Farmington, Granby, Hartland, Harwinton, New Hartford, Norfolk, Plainville, Plymouth, Simsbury, Suffield, Torrington, Wolcott, Winchester/Winsted, Windsor, and Windsor Locks, and Massachusetts towns, Otis, Becket, Tolland, and Sandisfield.

The communications intern will participate in:

*Public education and outreach.* This may entail face-to-face interaction with recreational users to encourage safe practices and good river etiquette, maintaining a lively online presence for FRWA on our website and in social media, and participating in virtual and live programs, events, and field trips for youth and the general public, such as workshops, farmers markets, and fairs. Field trips include visiting the Long Island Sound and may involve boat rides, and canoe or kayaking on the Farmington River. A high priority is assisting with FRWA's "River Smart" outreach program. Its objective is to engage people in adopting practices that reduce polluted stormwater runoff.

The individual will work with FRWA's partners in the local municipalities, schools, similar environmental and youth-serving organizations to deliver activities that connect people with

the river and the watershed with the goal to protect and improve water quality and habitat through public education and outreach.

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Majoring in communications or similar field is preferred
- A passion for protecting the natural environment
- Great communication skills
- Excellent organizational skills
- Experience with social media platforms
- Ability to relate to a wide variety of people from different backgrounds
- Good at working independently and with a team
- Experience in public relations
- Knowledge of environmental terms is preferred
- Photography skills
- Must have cell phone and email access
- Access to a car and a clean driving record
- Flexible schedule

**Terms and Compensation:**

This is a seasonal, hourly internship for an average of around 16 hours per week, depending on need and weather, for up to 16 weeks from late May or early June through late August. This is a temporary position that does not include benefits. Reimbursement for work-related travel is provided at the federal mileage rate. Wages range from \$15 to \$17/hr, depending on experience. School credit is offered as an alternative. Schedule is negotiable however work during regular business hours is preferred, occasional evenings and weekends are necessary (approximately twice a month).

FRWA is an equal opportunity employer. We prohibit discrimination based on age, color, disability, marital or parental status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status or any other legally protected status in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.

**Farmington River Watershed Association Background:**

Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization founded in 1953. Our mission is to preserve, protect, and restore the Farmington River and its watershed lands through research, water monitoring, habitat restoration projects, education about rivers and water issues, and advocacy for sound water policies at all levels. Our water monitoring program, organized by highly qualified staff, provides reliable data to CT DEEP. As opportunities arise, we work to restore streambanks and aquatic habitats for fish and wildlife, for example by removing dams or restoring native plant communities. We also help towns with river management, stormwater pollution reduction education and mapping projects. More information can be found on our website, [www.frwa.org](http://www.frwa.org)