Seasonal Vector Control Assistant (Intern)

The Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District is seeking seasonal staff to assist in mosquito and vector surveillance, control, and other support roles. Our District is based in Roseville, CA, and operates a substation near Truckee, CA, and serves all of Placer County.

Final Filing Dates: May 8, 2020 by 3:30 p.m.

Position Status
Temporary, Full Time (up to two positions available)

Application Process
Applicants must submit a complete and accurate District application form, resume, cover letter and DMV driving record (https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/online/dr). Failure to complete your application and the instructions in this job announcement may result in your application being rejected. Applications can be obtained online: www.placermosquito.org or be picked up at the District office. Please direct your application materials electronically to info@placermosquito.org (subject line “Seasonal VCA - Intern”), or by mail to: Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District, 2021 Opportunity Drive, Roseville, CA 95678. No phone calls please.

Job Description
Seasonal Vector Control Assistant – Intern

Up to two seasonal vector control assistant intern positions are available for the 2020 season. Interns will be assigned duties that involve field and laboratory work and require regularly driving a District vehicle on a variety of paved and unpaved roads in various weather conditions. All positions, however, can expect to be assigned a range of duties that support the District’s mission to protect public health.

Intern positions may incorporate a student project to qualify for academic credit or transcript notation. Check with your academic department regarding their policies. Applicants are solely responsible for making all arrangements and meeting requirements related to academic credit. PacVec can facilitate finding a faculty mentor at UC Davis. Please contact PacVec at training@pacvec.us for more information.

1. Roseville-based VCA Intern would gain experience working in a state-of-the art mosquito and vector-borne disease lab performing various field and laboratory tasks. Projects may be focused on pesticide resistance testing, mosquito control efficacy testing or related projects. Start and end dates are somewhat flexible but must be between April and mid-October. Position open until filled.

2. Truckee-based VCA Intern would gain experience working primarily in the field performing vector surveillance for mosquitoes and yellow-jackets in the greater Lake Tahoe area. Some travel to Roseville may be required. Intern project involves working to support a multi-year grant funded yellow-jacket control research through University of California Riverside. This work would include trapping, identifying, and processing yellow-jackets in the eastern Placer County. Start and end dates are somewhat flexible but must be between May and October.
Job Description (continued)

Duties may include, but are not limited to, some or any the following:

- Set and retrieve mosquito surveillance traps
- Set and retrieve yellowjacket surveillance traps
- Use a microscope and dichotomous key to count and identify adult and immature mosquitoes
- Collect and prepare mosquito samples for further identification or disease testing
- Observe, assess, and inspect areas for immature and adult mosquito presence or habitat
- Collect samples of mosquito larvae that occur in many different habitats both urban and rural
- Apply mosquito control insecticides under the supervision of a certified vector control technician
- Assist with mosquito control efficacy testing operations during daytime and nighttime hours as requested
- Use scientific field and laboratory equipment and instruments
- Use a laptop or other device to collect and enter field data
- Safely operate and navigate District vehicles to perform work-related activities
- Correctly utilize personal protective equipment when required
- General maintenance (cleaning laboratory workspace and equipment, District vehicles, etc.)
- Communicate District messages when interacting with members of the public
- Other duties as assigned

Physical Requirements

- Environmental Conditions:
  - Outdoor: frequent work outdoors with exposure to uneven ground such as fields, dirt banks, stream banks, rice fields, and shallow ponds; occasional exposure to chemicals, fumes, and other environmental substances. Outdoor work may also involve operation or exposure to manned or unmanned aircraft.
  - Typical office/laboratory environment: Occasional work in an office setting using typical office equipment. Some assignments may be in a laboratory setting using common biological laboratory equipment and substances.
  - Work may require wearing appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment.
- Mobility: Periodically climb ladders or other objects; occasionally sit in one place while operating lab equipment or operating a computer.
- Labor: Occasionally standing or driving for long period of time; periodically bending at the knees and waist, stooping, crawling, reaching over head and squatting. Repetitive motion associated with computer usage and machinery operation.
- Lifting: Periodically lifting up to 50 pounds, occasionally assist in lifting over 50 pounds.
- Vision: Constant use of overall vision, including depth perception.
- Dexterity: Frequent grasping, holding, and reaching.
- Hearing/Talking: Regular hearing and talking in person.
- Emotional/Psychological: Regular coworker contact; occasional working alone.

Requirements

It is the applicant’s responsibility to identify in their application materials how they meet the MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS listed below:

- Must be at least 18 years of age or older.
- Education, training, and/or experience in vector control or a related field is desirable.
- Experience in biological laboratory and/or field-work desirable. Basic computer skills required.
- A valid California Driver License will be required at the time of employment and must be maintained throughout employment.
- Must pass pre-employment screenings including background check, physical, and drug test.
- Must have a driving record that meets District’s self-insurance standards.

TO QUALIFY FOR STUDENT PROJECT: Applicants must demonstrate that they have made arrangements with an academic institution to receive credit.

Employment Standards

Knowledge of:

- Basic biology with familiarity with mosquitoes and other insects
- Safe work practices including regulations related to worker safety, pesticide handling and application
- Familiarity with principles of Integrated Vector (Pest) Management

Ability to:

- Interact professionally and effectively with peers, supervisors and the public.
- Safely operate standard district equipment related to vector control field work
- Follow oral and written instructions
- Effectively communicate verbally and in writing
- Read and write at a level required for successful job performance
- Operate standard business computer hardware, mobile devices and related software applications
### Examination and Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and **interviews will be scheduled during the week of May 11, 2020 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.** Selection will be based on a combined overall assessment of the oral interview, written application and resume.

### Pre-employment screening

A pre-employment background check and a physical and drug test will be required. All persons selected for appointment must pass medical examinations administered by the District’s physician. Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District is committed to maintaining a drug and alcohol-free workplace.

### Terms of Employment

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td>Between $14 – $20/hour depending on location. (Not to exceed 1000 hours in a calendar year or six-month continuous employment)</td>
<td>A full-length work term for interns would start in May and end in October which generally corresponds to our mosquito season. The greatest need of the District for this position is from June through August. Well-qualified or returning employees in this position may be granted flexibility in work term, if necessary, provided it does not compromise District operations or goals. Specific timing of all work schedules and terms will be dictated by environmental conditions and the needs of the District.</td>
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<td>Work days/hours: Generally, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; may include weekends or evenings and be adjusted for weather, vector-borne disease risk, or other District needs.</td>
<td>Workers compensation is provided. Employees are protected under the Workers Compensation Laws of California.</td>
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The District reserves the right to change or alter this description at its sole discretion.

All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. Please contact the District at least five (5) working days before a scheduled examination or interview if you require accommodation in the examination or interview process.