



## **Environmental Science and Stewardship Fellow**

June – August 2021

The Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) seeks a detail-oriented, enthusiastic, and communicative fellow to support stewardship programs and water quality science. Fellowship duties include:

**Water quality science.** The fellow will assist the organization's science programs by collecting water quality samples and other field data from throughout the watershed that inform on recreation and habitat quality. Projects may include (but not be limited to) cyanobacteria monitoring at recreation sites; support of a program to use electronic instruments to document the impairment of water bodies by road salt; bacteria monitoring at stormwater outfalls.

**Invasive plants.** The fellow will implement MyRWA's invasive plant removal program including monitoring for and removing aquatic and land based invasive plants. The fellow will take responsibility for all aspects of volunteer stewardship events, including: communication with volunteer groups; preparation and transportation of supplies; setting up a welcoming event; presenting safety and project training information; management of plant material; event photography; follow up with participants. Summer 2021 stewardship programming may also include coordinating "virtual" volunteer opportunities using MyRWA's underwater fish camera for partner groups who do not wish to resume in-person events.

**Trash-Free Mystic.** Trash-Free Mystic is a new, multi-faceted program to study, raise awareness of, and reduce trash inputs into the waterways of the Mystic River watershed and in our parks and paths. The fellow will help implement this program, hosting small, targeted volunteer cleanup events and collecting data on litter in the watershed. All events will follow state COVID-19 guidelines.

The fellow will work both in and out of the office, and must be able to work independently and as a member of a team that includes an additional fellow, a Watershed Scientist and Engagement Manager. Applicants must be available to work a minimum of four Saturdays during the summer for cleanup events.

This is a 32 hour per week position for 10 weeks with one week off; this position receives a \$4,800 stipend.

### Qualifications:

- Ability to work 4 Saturdays
- Driver's license; access to a car highly desirable (mileage is reimbursed)
- Ability to navigate a canoe/kayak (safety training provided)
- Ability to lift 40 lbs.
- Must be able to swim
- Organized and detail-oriented, ability to self-lead
- Ability to work early mornings and weekends



- Strong computer skills, including Microsoft Excel
- Candidates must be 18 years of age or older

Additional desirable skills:

- Life guard certification
- Experience driving a motor boat
- Event facilitation skills
- Knowledge of a second language relevant to our watershed (e.g., Spanish, Haitian Creole, Chinese, Vietnamese, Portuguese, French at fluency level)

**About the Mystic River Watershed Association**

The Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) works to protect and restore the health of the 21-community watershed for the benefit of both people and the natural environment. Founded in 1972, MyRWA has grown to a staff of ten and an annual budget of more than \$2.5 million.

Our Mystic Greenways program creates and connects 25 miles of parks and paths along the Mystic River and its tributaries. Our education program engages over 1,000 youth and families in STEAM education focused on nature close to home. Hundreds of volunteers help us document and improve water quality, river herring, and urban heat islands. Finally, MyRWA founded and co-leads the Resilient Mystic Collaborative, a watershed-wide partnership among cities and towns to protect people and places from climate change.

This is an exciting time to join a highly collaborative and dedicated staff. We are committed to incorporating racial equity and justice throughout our programs, operations, staff and board on an ongoing basis. We have embarked on a year-long training and strategic update to ensure that we are fully living into these values.

**How to Apply**

Please send resume and cover letter to [Erica.wood@mysticriver.org](mailto:Erica.wood@mysticriver.org). No calls, please. The position will be open until filled.

For more information about the Mystic River Watershed Association see [www.MysticRiver.org](http://www.MysticRiver.org).