

School of Environment and Natural Resources

E-CO Alternatives Internship

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BACKGROUND

E-CO Alternatives is a company dedicated to helping consumers find sustainable and affordable businesses online as well as locally. Their company mission includes:

- Connection
- Education
- Support

The main vision of E-CO Alternatives includes uplifting both consumers and businesses in order to help them make the greener choice.

E-CO Alternatives strives to make the sustainable choice easier through a Sustainability Directory that maps out all sustainable businesses in an area and explains the ways in which they are sustainable.



How did I find this job?

- I found this internship through LinkedIn

Example of some of our sustainable business partners:



ON THE JOB

Daily Responsibilities:

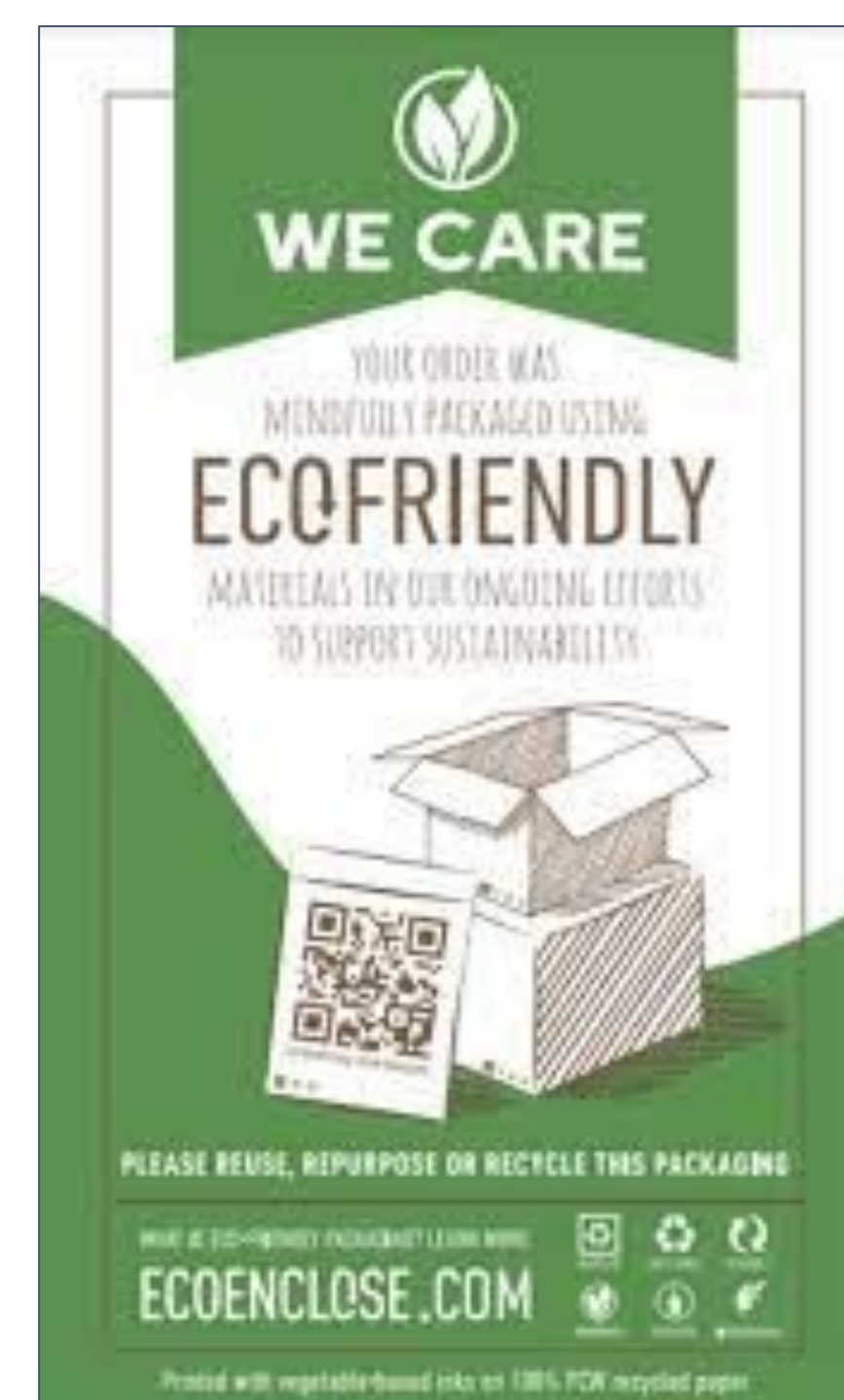
- Reaching out to organizations and clubs that would be interested in learning more about sustainable shopping options
- Analyzing surveys from business partners about their sustainability needs
- Researching potential sustainable suppliers
- Drafting email templates to send to sustainable suppliers and to our business partners
- Comparing price analyses between several suppliers

Example Pricing Analysis for EcoEnclose:

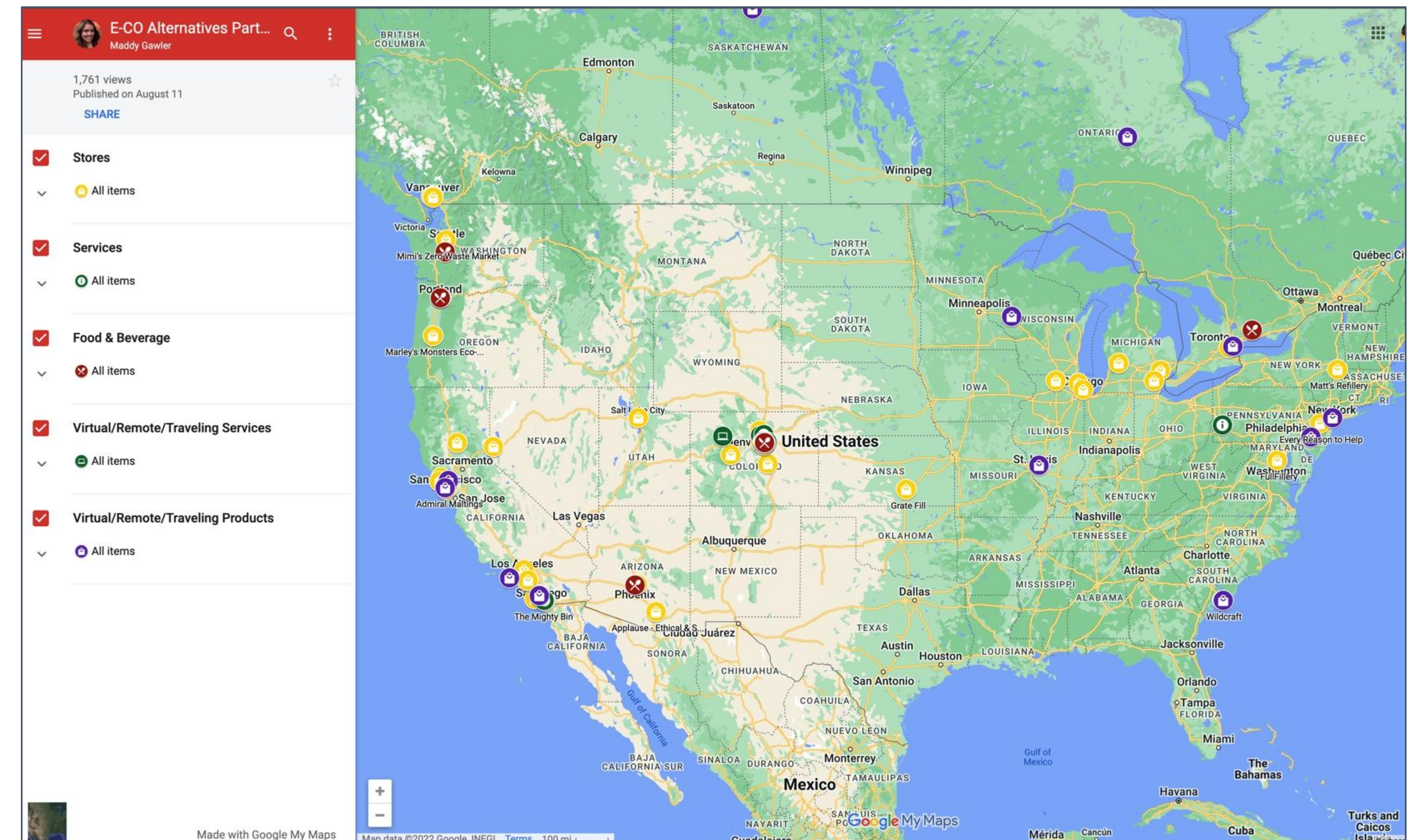
8							
9	6 x 9" Padded Mailers (case of 250)						
10	Cases Quoted	Standard Price	Volume Discount	\$/Case	Subtotal	Price Per Unit	
11	1	\$69.00	0%	\$69.00	\$69.00	\$0.28	
12	2	\$69.00	2%	\$67.62	\$135.24	\$0.27	
13	5	\$69.00	5%	\$65.55	\$327.75	\$0.26	
14	10	\$69.00	10%	\$62.10	\$621.00	\$0.25	
15	15	\$69.00	15%	\$58.65	\$879.75	\$0.23	
16							
17							
18	8 x 11" Padded Mailers (case of 100)						
19	Cases Quoted	Standard Price	Volume Discount	\$/Case	Subtotal	Price Per Unit	
20	1	\$43.00	0%	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$0.43	
21	2	\$43.00	2%	\$42.14	\$84.28	\$0.42	
22	5	\$43.00	5%	\$40.85	\$204.25	\$0.41	
23	10	\$43.00	10%	\$38.70	\$387.00	\$0.39	
24	15	\$43.00	15%	\$36.55	\$548.25	\$0.37	
25							
26							
27							

Shared Sourcing Project:

- This project was my main responsibility over the summer
- E-CO Alternatives is trying to uplift businesses by providing a discounted consulting program
- This program connects our business partners to sustainable suppliers at a much more affordable price
- I worked on getting quotes from suppliers and analyzing which companies would benefit our partners the most



A few of our sustainable suppliers



Global Sustainability Directory Map

REFLECTION

- Overall I've really been enjoying this internship. I have been able to learn so much more about the business aspect of sustainability
- Moving forward I would love to continue working with E-CO Alternatives and continue to expand our Shared Sourcing Project and would also love to find a job in this area
- Long-term I am planning on keeping my options open but would love to find more positions that deal with sustainability in business

RECOMMENDATIONS

Is this internship right for you?

- This internship is best for independent workers who like completing tasks on their own
- Make sure you are self-sufficient and able to complete responsibilities without supervision
- It is important to have strong communication skills as connecting with businesses and supervisors via email or Zoom calls is very important

Considerations for Future Interns...

- This internship is unpaid
- It is completely remote and there is little to no interaction with other team members
- This internship is really what you make of it and can provide many new opportunities to work in various areas of interest



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES