

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Lead and Copper Intern with Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

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Mission Statement: Protect the environment and public health by following environmental laws and taking lead in environmental stewardship

DDAGW Mission Statement: Ensure compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Evaluates potential threats to source waters that supply drinking water systems in Ohio. Lead role for statewide ground water protection in cooperation with other state and federal agencies; implements a ground water quality monitoring program; and provides technical support to the Agency's waste management divisions



Where?

- My home
 - Part of Central office with COVID-19 the agency is mostly still at home and in-person work is restricted

How?

- I previously applied and interviewed for EPA
 - COVID cancelled all internships
- Reapplied to all possible



Personal Reflect

- Reinforced my motivation to get a permanent position at OEPA
- Looking forward to:
 - The rest of the internship
 - Hopefully:
 - getting an additional internship at OEPA next summer
 - Permanent position at EPA
 - Master's in Environmental Science specializing in water issues



My badge

On the job

- Aided in lead monitoring process for Public Water Systems
- Kept track of all Public Water Systems Lead Consumer Notice Compliance Schedules in the State of Ohio
- **Communicate with each Public Water System to help maintain compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule**
 - Administrative Contact and Designated operator of record
- **Two field work experiences**



Waders for Harmful Algal Bloom sampling

Advice

- Don't be afraid to talk to people
 - "coworkers" are SO nice
 - **Be involved in the all DDAGW staff meetings!**
 - The Chief loves to get to know everyone
- Don't be afraid to ask questions!
 - The best way to show interest is to be interested



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