The Ohio State University / School of Environment and Natural Resources / Natural Resource Management

Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District

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Background

For the 2021 summer from May-August, I worked at Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District located Delaware County, Ohio.

- There mission is to "bring people, government agencies, and private interests together to manage the natural resources and environmental challenges of Delaware County and the state of Ohio".
- This Soil and Water Conservation District focuses on helping you help the land.
- Having connections with the employer by reaching out is what got me the job for the summer.

Surveying For Tile Blowouts



Reflection

This internship has given me the opportunity to get a real world experience within my field. It has also given me the chance to be put on the spot to solve work related issues.

As an intern here, I was treated as a true employee an got to go out on jobs by myself to survey and to do inspections. This has given me more confidence for my future work field in the future.

Being able to works hands on with drainage related issues, talking to people about drainage plans, and getting involved within the field of Natural Resources has made me a more well-rounded person in my field.

- Met with landowners to do drainage protection reviews.
- Weekly spraying of agriculture ditches for woody vegetation and pond spraying for cattails that interfere with outlet pipes.
- Made visual and video inspections of drainage On The Job ditches, catch basins, and storm drains.

Surveyed properties for drainage plans using Topcon Surveying Equipment and plotted the data using Autocad to make topography maps.

Spraying Woody Vegetation



Video Inspection Using Rover



Future

I plan to try to find a seasonal/full-time job that works with fisheries and /or wildlife. Working in fisheries management and in the Natural Resource field has been a long-term goal of mine and hope to achieve this after I graduate. Being able to work outside of Ohio and getting to see/work in different environments will help carve out my professional career.

Organization Logo



Surveyed agricultural land for tile blowouts and obstructions within Soil and Water easements and on conservation easements.

Surveying For a Drainage Tile Plan



Recommendations

For anyone who is going to do an internship, I recommend to observe and ask as many questions as you can on the job. Being able to utilize that opportunity will make you a more well rounded person when it comes to confidence and work experience. Working with DSWCD has given me that opportunity and would recommend anyone who want to work with drainage or survey work to get an internship with them.