

Title:	Marine Debris and Litter Apprenticeship
Duration:	10 weeks (approximately May – August 2023)
Compensation:	\$5,000 stipend and job-related travel reimbursement
Minimum age:	18
Minimum requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Must be currently enrolled in a four-year accredited college or university in a course of study relevant to the mission of Extension (marine science, environmental science, environmental engineering, etc. for this position). ● Must have completed sophomore year prior to the start of the program. ● Must NOT be eligible to graduate prior to December 2022. ● Must possess a minimum GPA of 3.0 based on a 4.0 scale at the time of application (exceptions will be considered with substantial justification). ● Must be a U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident. ● Must be willing to travel (regionally and possibly internationally) and occasionally work flexible hours outside of a traditional M-F, 8-5 schedule. ● Must have a valid driver’s license and a reliable personal vehicle.
Preferred qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good writing and communication skills. ● Self-motivated learner that can coordinate and implement projects. ● Committed to working with diverse clientele and colleagues. ● Ability to work effectively and build relationships with others. ● Proficient in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. ● Experience with GIS and drones. ● Understanding of marine or estuarine ecology and/or environmental engineering.
Physical requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strong swimmer. ● Able to work in harsh environments, such as coastal wetlands and remote beaches, with no shade. ● Able to carry at least 20lbs through harsh environments. <p>Able to perform physical labor for 8+ hours in a day.</p>
Apprenticeship Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work with an MSU Extension mentor and other Extension personnel and stakeholders to coordinate research and implement related outreach program events and activities. ● Participate in meetings where local issues are identified and prioritized, and program results and plans are discussed. Assist in preparations for planned events and activities by gathering information, assembling materials, contacting participants, and soliciting support from external sources. As appropriate, conduct the teaching, training or other program presentations. ● Maintain a reflection journal outlining apprenticeship experiences. ● Develop and present a poster or presentation at an industry-related conference or professional meeting identified by the Extension mentor. ● Contribute to the Coastal Conservation and Restoration Program (http://coastal.msstate.edu/ccr). ● Collaborate with a large multi-disciplinary team on marine debris and litter focused research and extension projects. ● Conduct research and extension activities focused on evaluating the magnitude and environmental impacts of marine debris/litter, improve understanding of effectiveness of marine debris/litter prevention activities, and disseminate learned information to a broad group of end-users.

Other Information:	Housing is not provided. However, program administrators may be able to assist you in finding an affordable place to live. For specific questions about this undergraduate apprenticeship opportunity, please contact: Dr. Eric Sparks, Director of Coastal and Marine Extension, eric.sparks@msstate.edu , 228-388-4710
Application Process:	Online application due by 11:59 PM on February 14, 2023.