

Title:	The Story of Wildlife in Our Cities: Listening to our Neighbors
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 Wildlife conservation, human dimensions of wildlife, biology, environmental studies, environmental education, science communication, journalism and/or natural resource fields with interest in the integration of these disciplines. ● Must have completed sophomore year prior to the start of the program. ● Must NOT be eligible to graduate prior to December 2023. ● 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 conducting focus groups and/or personal interviews including developing materials (e.g., question script, informed consent, charts. etc.), coordinating logistics, and facilitating sessions. ● Experience with qualitative analysis of transcripts and supporting materials like charts and group work documents. ● Experience with synthesizing qualitative data into reports. ● Experience with teaching informal continuing education like presenting to community groups, youth organizations, etc.
Physical requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily work will primarily be in the office or at meeting facilities conducting focus groups and compiling and synthesizing data. ● Opportunities to assist with field work and instruction requires good physical condition and willingness to work in typical southeastern US field conditions, including high temperatures and humidity and biting insects (proper field work safeguards will be implemented including using insect repellent and wearing appropriate protective field clothing). ● Occasionally the ability to lift and carry heavy objects (up to 40 pounds) moderate distances via cases or in a backpack could be needed.
Apprenticeship Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The successful applicant will be involved in an integrated experience in urban wildlife management, human dimensions of wildlife, and community engagement. The MSU Extension Urban Wildlife Program is in the fourth year of creating a comprehensive research and extension program in the Jackson, MS metro in conjunction with the Urban Wildlife Information Network (UWIN - Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, IL), a 52-city collaborative partnership across North America, Europe, and Africa to improve wildlife management, municipal planning, and wildlife conservation education in urban areas.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The successful applicant will be involved in the development of the second phase of a community needs assessment for the Jackson, MS based project. ● Development of the focus group materials (e.g., question script, informed consent, charts, etc.), coordination of logistics, and facilitation of the sessions. ● Initiate the qualitative analysis of the transcripts and supporting materials from the focus groups. ● Synthesize the data and findings into a report. ● Assist the MSU Extension mentor in conducting the 2023 Central MS Master Naturalist Program, an adult continuing education 8-week course on Mississippi's natural resources, and key partner in implementing the Urban Wildlife Program by providing trained volunteers. This will include course planning and logistics, field trip coordination, and the opportunity to teach a subject in the apprentice's related field of study. ● Shadow the MSU Extension mentor at professional and civic group meetings, field days, and client consultations. ● Participate in field work (maintaining motion-sensor camera array) with volunteers and graduate students. ● 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.
<p>Other Information:</p>	<p>Housing is not provided. However, program administrators may be able to assist you in finding an affordable place to live.</p> <p>For specific questions about this undergraduate apprenticeship opportunity, please contact:</p> <p>Dr. Adam Rohnke Urban Wildlife Extension Specialist Mississippi State University adam.rohnke@msstate.edu 601-857-2284 (office)</p>
<p>Application Process:</p>	<p>Online application due by 11:59 PM on February 14, 2023.</p>