2015 MnTAP Summer Internship: Park Nicollet Health Services in the Twin Cities Reduce Solid Waste and Improve Recycling at Park Nicollet Clinics

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on source reduction and waste diversion at Park Nicollet Clinics in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, based at the St. Louis Park campus. The intern will work to reduce waste and improve recycling by identifying opportunities to generate less waste, improve recycling infrastructure, purchase environmentally preferred products, and improve education and communications with staff and visitors at select Park Nicollet clinics.

JOB DUTIES:
As part of this project, you will be asked to complete the following tasks:
1. Identify current solid waste streams and gather baseline solid waste management data, using waste audits, hauling invoices, and previously generated waste studies to quantify waste composition and generation.
2. Work with point of contact at selected clinics to assess current solid waste management practices and infrastructure at each stage of handling, from individual generator to custodial staff to hauler.
3. Identify materials that can be source reduced or recycled. Collaborate with staff to generate ideas for improvement and feasibility. Use best practices currently in place at other locations as a model where possible. Potential recommendations may involve purchasing, solid waste infrastructure, handling procedures, or staff education.
4. Estimate reduction and/or diversion potentials (weights/volumes) and costs associated with implementation.
5. Prioritize recommendations based on criteria such as estimated payback and ease of implementation.
6. Work with staff to implement recommendations related to source reduction, improving recycling, changing purchasing practices, and educating staff and visitors.
7. Participate in system Green Team and corporate meetings.
8. Summarize findings in a detailed report.
9. Present findings to the company and at MnTAP-hosted public presentation events.

As an intern, you will work at the company and report back to MnTAP. The position is full time, 40 hours per week, for three months to start after the conclusion of spring semester or quarter. Pay is $13/hour, with a lump sum stipend of $1,000 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to $15.00/hour when averaged over the project.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Good oral & written communication skills
- A technical academic background
- Troubleshooting skills
- Appropriate majors: Environmental studies, environmental management, and others as applicable

TO APPLY:
Apply online at www.mntap.umn.edu/intern/student_apply.htm
Remember to submit your application form, cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcript.
Applications can be addressed to:
Linda Maleitzke, Intern Coordinator
200 Oak Street SE, Suite 350
Minneapolis, MN 55455 • lmaleitz@umn.edu

MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY.

MnTAP is funded primarily by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s Prevention and Assistance Division and is located at the University of Minnesota in the School of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Sciences. The University’s mission, carried out on multiple campuses and throughout the state, is threefold: research and discovery, teaching and learning, and outreach and public service.

The University of Minnesota shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.