

**Internship:** Lead a pilot project focused on the anaerobic digestion of food waste.

**Company:** St. Cloud Nutrient, Energy and Water Recovery Facility – St. Cloud, MN in partnership with Tri County Solid Waste and Donohue & Associates

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on the co-digestion of waste food products at the St. Cloud Nutrient, Energy and Water Recovery Facility. The intern will work with MnTAP, St. Cloud Recovery Facility personnel, and the pilot project engineering consultant, Donohue & Associates to operate a food co-digestion pilot. The project objectives include:

1. Observe and analyze anaerobic digester biogas production by introducing preconsumer food waste using an organics separator to remove packaging and create a food waste slurry.
2. Characterization of the waste food sources in the laboratory.

### JOB DUTIES:

As part of this project, you will be asked to complete the following tasks:

1. Lead the co-digestion pilot project with assistance from project partners.
2. Provide guidance on organics separator operational optimization.
3. Coordinate forklift needs with City staff for loading new organics and disposal of waste product
4. Assess biogas production of organic slurries fed to the anaerobic digester.
5. Collect and organize samples for laboratory analysis.
6. Assist City staff with laboratory analysis.
7. Maintain log of operational changes, plant operations data, and sample analysis data.
8. Compare organics biogas production and plant operation to existing anaerobic digester feedstocks.
9. Document and distribute weekly pilot observations to the team.
10. Develop summary of all the above with recommendations towards full scale improvements.
11. 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 on May 17, 2022. Pay is \$16/hour, with a lump sum stipend of \$1,000 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to \$18.00/hour when averaged over the project. Candidates must pass a background check.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Good oral & written communication skills
- A technical academic background
- Troubleshooting skills
- Self-motivated
- Excel and other software skills
- Interest in analytical laboratory work
- Appropriate majors: *Engineering, environmental or physical sciences and others as applicable*

### TO APPLY:

Apply online at:

[www.mntap.umn.edu/intern/student\\_apply.htm](http://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:

Matt Domski, Intern Program Manager

200 Oak Street SE, Suite 350-1

Minneapolis, MN 55455 • [mdomski@umn.edu](mailto:mdomski@umn.edu)

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